UKRAINIAN NEWS
УКРАЇНСЬКІ ВІСТІ

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U.S. lawyers arrive in Ukraine to gather depositions for Lazarenko trial

See Page 5

Canadian visit surpasses expectations, Yushchenko says

By Marco Levytsky
With material from the Press Service of "Our Ukraine", Simon Kouklewsky, Solomia Khmara, Lu Taskey, UCC National

Leaving Canada on May 17, "Our Ukraine" leader Viktor Yushchenko said the visit exceeded his expectations.

"The Canadian side has heard me," he said. "My expectations as to the interest towards Ukraine were surpassed. And not just with the Diaspora, but among business circles, politicians and journalists. Everybody was concerned with the lack of democracy of the effective system."

Yushchenko said his main mission was to provide information about the situation in Ukraine. He wants the Diaspora to understand that it plays a valuable role for the democratization of Ukraine.

He added that official Ottawa values Ukraine's place in its foreign affairs priorities, but remains concerned about its business climate and freedom of speech.

Following his speech at the Empire Club and press conference with Ukrainian Canadian media in Toronto, May 13 (see Ukrainian News May 14-27, 2003 for a report on the first half of Yushchenko's visit), Yushchenko flew to Ottawa, where he met with several ministers the following day, including Susan Whelan, Minister of International Cooperation, Gar Knutson, Secretary of State (Central and Eastern Europe and Middle East), and Bill Graham, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Yushchenko said that both sides agreed that Kyiv has failed to take effective advantage of the possibilities for economic and trade cooperation with a country in which a large and influential Diaspora, and as a result, there has been a cooling of relations.

In Ottawa Yushchenko also met with Ukrainian participants in the Parliamentary Internship program and told them he supported sending the anti-chemical warfare battalion to Kuwait because that was a humanitarian mission. However, he added, he did not support the use of force to resolve conflicts.

As for Ukraine's participation in the stabilizing forces in Iraq, Yushchenko said that a lot more information has to be given the country as to its role.

He also predicted that the opposition will win the presidential elections in 2004.

"The next president of Ukraine will be a democrat. We are already consolidating our forces for victory. In the fall we will set up a united all-national democratic structure for the 2004 elections," he said.

He termed President Leonid Kuchma's proposed reforms a "constitutional coup" which attempts to fool the people. He said political reform should be carried out by a new authority, which has the confidence of the nation.

That evening he delivered a public lecture at the University of Ottawa where he stated it is incorrect to say that the independence came without blood.

"Let us remember that millions of Ukrainians died for the idea of an independent Ukraine."

He also returned to a theme he had espoused in previous appearances in Toronto — namely that democracy is threatened in Ukraine.

"At one time the American President, John Kennedy, said: 'In our country a chauffeur can become a president and he will be a good leader. Because the system of power

Cont. on P. 3

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PHOTO — LU TASKEY

Youth in traditional Ukrainian costumnes form an honour guard for the head table at the banquet held in honour of Viktor Yushchenko in Toronto on May 16.

Ющенко про найгостріші проблеми у канадсько-українських відносинах

Михайло Мигалисько, *Радіо Свобода*

Вашингтон, 15 травня 2003 – У ці дні Ющенко зустрічається з канадськими політиками і підприємцями. Наш колега Михайло Мигалисько зв'язався з Ющенком по телефону і запитав, які конкретні проблеми, він вважає найгострішими у канадсько-українських відносинах?

Віктор Ющенко:

Якщо говорити про економіку, то очевидно, що за останні роки відмічається відчутне похолодання економічної активності. Фактично звернуті інвестиційні проекти, які навіть раніше були розпочаті. Залишилося декілька проектів, які можна віднести до тих, що ефективно функціонують.

Як не дивно, звичайно, тут не є проблеми більш економічні, а політичні, тому що, на мій погляд, за останні роки Україні вдалося зробити певну макроекономічну більш високу культуру, яка вже може приваблювати надійних партнерів. Але те, що Україна перебуває у одній із самих глибоких політичних криз, те, що не вселяє ні впевненість, ні стабільні очікування в бізнесі, формує, власне кажучи, таке економічне неусталене ставлення до українського ринку і до самої України. Тому друга частина відносин - політична, може виглядає сьогодні більш актуальною, тому що вона відкриває двері для економічної і торговельної співпраці, і культурних освітніх зв'язків. Тому найбільше часу за ці декілька днів перебування в Канаді я якраз віддаю цьому питанню.

Михайло Мигалисько:

Пане Ющенко, Ви зустрічалися з прем'єр-міністром Канади Жаном Кретьєном і він погодився з Вами, я цитую прес-реліз «Нашої України», що «вести дебати з опозицією – це, дійсно, не просто». Водночас, він заявив, що «для представників канадського уряду подібні діалоги є нормальною щоденною практикою, такою звичайною справою, як хокей, наш національний вид спорту». Чи на Вашу думку можливо розпочати діалог з теперішньою владою в Україні?

Віктор Ющенко:

Я з кожним місяцем все менше і менше вірю у здатність такого діалогу. Але з іншої сторони, хотів би зазначити, що моя політична сила демонструє і намагається утвердити якраз режим діалогу. Не говорити взагалі, не доносити свою точку зору, не доносити точку зору наших країн-партнерів відносно недемократичної ситуації в Україні, чи не направляти на демократичний розвиток Україну, це не є кращою позицією. Тому у відносинах зовнішнього характеру ми націлюємо на те, що з Україною треба мати діалог. Не треба плутати проблеми певних персон із долею цілої Центрально Європейської країни, в якій проживає 48 мільйонів громадян.

Михайло Мигалисько:

Пане Ющенко, ще одне запитання. Ви є лідером найбільшої фракції у Верховній Раді України, яка повинна вирішити питання участі України у стабілізаційних силах в Іраку. Як Ви ставитеся до такої участі і хто повинен фінансувати українських військовослужбовців у цьому процесі?

Віктор Ющенко:

Мені здається, це не є на сьогодні вузьким питанням для українських політиків і, зокрема, для моєї політичної сили. Перш за все, бракує дуже багато вихідних обставин для того, щоб говорити по суті цього питання. Ми ще не володіємо інформацією про статус і характер можливої участі наших військових підрозділів у цій програмі. Залишаються відкритими речі, які належать до гарантій, гарантій безпеки, в тому числі, і соціальних гарантій. Залишається відкритим питання фінансування. Тому поки що у цьому запитанні дуже багато невідомих. Я маю намір по поверненню до України виділити час для того, щоб всі ці обставини ми з'ясували, обговорили і ухвалили рішення по суті.

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Провідник "Нашої України" готовий домовлятися з окремими представниками влади

Марта Онуфрів, Міст, Львівська газета

Провідник "Нашої України" не виключає компромісів із певними представниками влади. Зрозуміло, задля демократичних перетворень в Україні. Про це він заявив, перебуваючи з візитом у Канаді, де він прочитав лекції про зовнішню та внутрішню політику України, зустрівся із місцевими політиками, підприємцями та керівниками українських організацій.

Провідною темою розмов, за словами лідера нашоукраїнців, були наступні вибори президента та можливість висунення єдиного кандидата від опозиції: "Запорукою нашого успіху на майбутніх президентських виборах є узгоджена політична платформа, єдиний кандидат. Другою складовою успіху є наявність добірної команди, що вже працювала у владних структурах, засвідчила свою відданість українським інтересам, свою високу професійність".

Коментуючи останні події в парламенті, зокрема, позицію комуністів щодо питання голодомору 33-го року, Ющенко відзначив, що "влада й далі хоче нас розділити, спекулюючи різними проблемами: української мови, церков, ставленням до воїнів УПА, інтеграцією на Схід чи Захід тощо. Усе це роблять для того, щоб народ не був сконсолідованим, а далі був отарою. Тільки в останньому випадку може влада перемогти на будь-яких виборах". Варто відзначити, що представників української діаспори Канади дуже турбує факт співпраці "НУ" з комуністами. Цю тему обговорювали практично під час усіх зустрічей з Віктором Ющенком. "Ми оцінюємо політичні сили за ставленням до існуючої влади, – заявив Віктор Ющенко. – Саме з цих міркувань виходимо, коли співпрацюємо з парламентською фракцією комуністів, з їхнім лідером. Спільно виступаємо з Блоком Юлії Тимошенко, з соціалістами партії Олександра Мороза. Усі разом вирішуємо нагальну потребу: заміну політичної системи. Що ж до нашого бачення майбутнього України, то воно не в усіх однакове. І це треба сприймати, як нормальне явище".

Віктор Ющенко відповів на низку запитань канадського кореспондента "Газети".

– Чи є відмінності у трактуванні політичних реформ блоком "Наша Україна" і президентом України?

– У травні цього року "Наша Україна" запропонувала прийняти закон про вибори на пропорційній основі. Ми виступаємо також за однопалатний парламент, прийняття закону про президента, про уряд України, про прокуратуру України тощо. Ми також запропонували кроки модернізації політичної системи України.

А президент України виступає за перенесення виборів усіх рівнів на 2006 рік, проведення референдуму про зміну моделі правління, двопалатний парламент і таке інше. Багато з того, що він запропонував, суперечить Конституції України. Передовсім це засвідчує бажання президента України утримати за будь-яку ціну владу.

– Чи можливою для України є передача влади за випробуваною в Росії схемою?

– Нашою ціллю є проведення майбутніх прозорих виборів на демократичній основі. Саме це зможе змінити політичну, економічну й соціальну ситуацію в Україні. Задля національної безпеки України не виключаємо компромісів з кількома особами на вершинах влади. Але ми ніколи не поступимося проведенням демократичних перетворень разом з дотриманням законності.

– Минулі парламентські вибори засвідчили, що адміністративний ресурс є вагомою силою. Чи робиться щось для того, щоб його нейтралізувати або хоча б мінімізувати?

– Ми розпочали підготовку до виборів, організували штаби. Нема сумнівів у тому, що влада всім своїм арсеналом знову скористається, бо вона не може перемогти шляхом чесного поєдинку. І тому фальсифікація, дезінформація, неповна інформація й інше будуть основною її зброєю. З метою нейтралізації нам потрібно вдатися до зворотних дій, передовсім максимально залучити на підтримку ЗМІ. Мова йде про десятки регіональних газет, які можуть і хочуть підтримати одну інформаційну політику. Працюємо над можливістю свого телевізійного каналу.

Не менш важливим є здійснення контролю над місцевими виборчими комісіями, що їх формують представники президентських адміністрацій. На рівні політичних партнерів, дипломатичних представництв багатьох країн працюємо над організацією вишколу кількох десятків *тисяч спостерігачів. Усі* вони повинні чітко й професійно відреагувати на порушення під час майбутніх президентських виборів. Це велика й коштовна програма під опікою кількох інституцій. Сподіваємося на такий вишкіл міжнародних спостерігачів.

Хочемо також залучити світові структури. Йдеться не про підтримку ними певної політичної сили, а лишень про забезпечення й проведення демократичних виборів. В Україні за правду віддали життя багато чесних журналістів, демократично налаштованих політичних діячів. Отже, нарешті слід зробити все можливе, щоб в Україні запанували порядок і демократія.

Щоб перемогти адмінресурс Кучми Ющенко покличе на допомогу Європу

(Українська правда/Інтерфакс-Україна)—Україна, можливо, буде домагатися сприяння Ради Європи, Організації по безпеці і співробітництву в Європі й інших міжнародних організацій у проведенні демократичних і відкритих виборів, заявили представники блоку "Наша Україна" на зустрічі з федеральним канцлером Німеччини Ґерхардом Шредером.

23-го травня з німецьким канцлером зустрілися лідер "Нашої України" Віктор Ющенко і глава Української Народної партії Юрій Костенко, що прибули в Німеччину для участі в урочистостях з нагоди ювілею Соціал-демократичної партії цієї країни.

Співрозмовники обговорили політичну ситуацію в Україні, "зокрема, питання консолідації опозиційних сил, партійного будівництва в Україні, проблеми структурування вітчизняного політикуму, налагодження двосторонніх міжпартійних і міжпарламентських відносин".

Шредер, який також є лідером СДПН, висловив зацікавленість "ситуацією навколо майбутніх президентських виборів в Україні, часу їх проведення, а також готовності країни до проведення прозорого демократичного волевиявлення", повідомили в пресслужбі "Нашої України".

Завершуючи візит у Німеччину, Ющенко і Костенко зустрілися з представниками преси. Коментуючи результати візиту, народні депутати відзначили, що головним його результатом є проведення представниками "Нашої України" "надзвичайно широких консультацій". При цьому вони відзначили високий рівень переговорів, у ході яких українські політики ознайомили німецьких членів уряду і політиків з позицією блоку щодо найбільш актуальних вітчизняних проблем.

"Парламентарії відзначили зацікавленість німецьких політиків в одержанні інформації про Україну з перших вуст, а також небайдужість щодо того, який шлях обере наша держава через 1,5 роки (після президентських виборів - ІФ)", - відзначили в пресслужбі.

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In memory of our beloved husband and father, William Poluha, who passed away on June 12, 1973. We would like family and friends to remember him in their thoughts and prayers. A memorial service will be held at 8:15 a.m. on June 12, 2003 at St. Andrew's Ukrainian Catholic Church, 160 Euclid, Winnipeg.

† бл. п. Василь Полюга

У світлу пам'ять нашого дорого мужа і батька, Василя Полюги, який відійшов у вічність 12 червня 1973 року просимо родину і друзів спімнути Покійного у своїх молитвах. Пропам'ятна служба Божа відправиться 12 червня 2003 року о годині 8:15 ранку в церкві Св. Андрея у Вінніпезі.

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Head table at the May 16 Toronto banquet. Left to Right: Isabel Eaves, Ontario Premier Ernie Eaves, Yushchenko's wife Kateryna Chumachenko, Viktor Yushchenko, UCC National President Eugene Czolij.

Yushchenko ends Canada visit

Cont. from P. 1

is such that it simply will not allow him to be a bad president.' But, in Ukraine, during the 12 years of independence we have failed … to create a system which would guarantee democracy. We have problems with freedom of speech, a corrupt authority, people are persecuted for political beliefs and there is a rigid political pressure and censorship."

Yushchenko praised Canada as a country in which Ukrainians have realized many opportunities.

"The Ukrainian Diaspora in Canada is not only numerous, but also influential. That is why it is very bitter for me to speak today how Kyiv has been unable to take advantage of all the potential and opportunities for the establishment of bilateral economic relations," he said.

"Three years ago, during the visit of today's Prime Minister, Jean Chretien to Ukraine, one of the main questions during the talks was the matter of economic relations, the establishment of investments. But, unfortunately, a friendly environment for the influx of Western capital hasn't been created in Ukraine. Today, one can say, there are only a few bilateral projects in the economic sphere."

Yushchenko said one of his most favourable impressions was created when he visited Canada's parliament and witnessed Question Period. He said such public accountability doesn't exist in Ukraine where the authorities aren't used to facing the people.

In Montreal the following day (May 15) Yushchenko met with government officials and business people

Later he met with a Ukrainian Canadian Congress delegation chaired by National President, Eugene Czolij,, which included the President of the UCC Provincial Council of Quebec, Rev. Dr. Ihor Kutash, and UCC's Executive Director, Ostap Skrypnyk.

During this meeting, UCC's President outlined the work and future plans of the UCC. In addition, the following issues were discussed: the current situation in Ukraine, the importance of democratic presidential elections in October 2004, the recognition of the Famine of 1932 33 as a genocide and Canada Ukraine relations.

Yushchenko welcomed the proposals for the creation of a committee for free elections in Ukraine and noted that the democratic forces need help in preparing observers for the elections.

He also thanked all Diaspora generations for their contributions towards the development of independent Ukraine.

"Your active positions never cease to amaze me. Your concern about Ukraine is very important. You perform great work and give hope that, thanks to our mutual efforts Ukraine will emerge as a mature democratic state," he stressed.

That was followed by a community meeting, organized by the UCC and the UCC Montreal Branch, where Yushchenko spoke about the present conditions of life and necessary reforms in Ukraine.

He again mentioned the initiative for an elections committee calling the upcoming presidential vote "elections of particular importance".

He said tens of thousands of observers are needed in 32,000 electoral districts and that's where the Diaspora could help.

"Without your positions, your steadfastness, the consistent signals to Ukraine, much would have happened differently for us. It is our luck that your hands reach out to help Ukraine."

Yushchenko added that the World Forum of Ukrainians to be held this summer is an opportunity to put in a good contribution for the future of Ukraine.

"The forum has to sound the alarm as to the conduct of honest elections. It has to support initiatives that will bring advantages to Ukrainians."

But it is not enough just to change the current authority. Ukraine's political system has to be changed as well.

The is a need for a social contract to be established in Ukraine, similar to the one established in post-war Western Germany and a fully proportional voting system should be in place.

He said the single constituency system in Ukraine is "the least transparent and most criminalized".

Cont. on page 9

UCFTS announces literary award

(UCFTS)—The Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko has announced a $25,000 literary award for Canadian authors.

The Kobzar Literary Award will recognize outstanding contribution to Canadian literature through the author's representation of a Ukrainian Canadian theme.

The prestigious award joins the largest Canadian book prizes, accepting works in any of five categories: literary non-fiction, fiction, children's literature, poetry or drama. Submissions may be published in English, French or Ukrainian.

"The Shevchenko Foundation wishes to create a perpetual legacy for Canadian authors to continue to enthrall the world with the stories that emanate from our well-spring of diversity," said Shevchenko Foundation president, Andrew Hladyshevsky Q.C. "The purpose of the Award is to spawn great Canadian stories from the minds and pens of Canadian writers in the centuries old tradition of the wandering story tellers of ancient Ukraine, the Kobzars. By the end of the 21st century we hope to create a body of work worthy of our Canadian storytellers by honouring these future Canadian Kobzars."

Acknowledging the significance of the author/publisher relationship, both will be awarded for the winning submission.

The author will receive $20,000, while the publisher of the work will receive $5,000. The first winner of The Kobzar Literary Award will be announced in Fall, 2005.

The Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko is a national, chartered philanthropic institution providing leadership by building and nurturing a permanent endowment fund dedicated to the preservation and promotion of the Ukrainian Canadian cultural heritage and the advancement of a flourishing Ukrainian community for the enrichment of Canada.

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UCC calls for Pulitzer Prizes Board to revoke tainted award

(UCC National)—In the 1930s, while stationed in Moscow, a correspondent for the *New York Times*, Walter Duranty, published a series of articles that deliberately denied the existence of the Famine/Genocide in Ukraine of 1932-33.

Duranty intentionally denied that over 7 million Ukrainians were being deliberately starved to death by the Soviet regime.

His articles contributed to the Soviet cover-up of this horrendous genocide perpetrated by Stalin and his cohorts against the Ukrainian people.

Therefore, on May 1, 2003 as part of a series of actions to mark the 70th Anniversary of the Famine/Genocide in Ukraine of 1932-33, Ukrainians around the world have initiated a campaign to convince the Board of The Pulitzer Prizes to revoke Walter Duranty's Pulitzer Prize.

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress supports this campaign because of Duranty's willful denial of the Famine/Genocide in Ukraine of 1932-33.

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Міжнародні організації допомагають українським робітникам в Росії

Марія Щур, *Радіо Свобода*

Робота по 12 годин на день, без вихідних, без контрактів і соціального забезпечення – це те, з чим доводиться стикатися багатьом українським робітникам у Росії, де працедавці користуються їхнім нелегальним статусом. Домовитися про зміну їхнього статусу на урядовому рівні поки що не вдається, тому у справу втручаються міжнародні організації, такі, як Міжнародна Організація Праці.

Без документів на роботу та захисту профспілок робітники-нелегальні міґранти вразливі для експлуатації, говорить Міжнародна Організація Праці. На початку наступного тижня у Києві МОП представить перше спеціальне ґрунтовне дослідження про причини трудової міґрації з України, будуть названі регіони, найбільш вражені цією проблемою та держави, де українці шукають роботу. За деякими оцінками, близько 2 мільйонів українців працює в Росії, в основному, на будівництві. Говорить Роджер Плант з Міжнародної Організації Праці:

«У російській будівельній промисловості є певні види робіт, які виконують закордонні робітники. Ми порівняли ситуацію українських робітників з іншими, і побачили, що українці є у порівняно кращому становищі, ніж, скажімо, будівельники з Таджикистану, чи Узбекистану. Ці останні роблять роботу, що є найбруднішою, найскладнішою і найнебезпечнішою. Українці мають кращу кваліфікацію, і отримують кращу роботу», - говорить представник МОП.

Але зловтіха, що комусь іще гірше, не покращує ситуації з українськими будівельниками. Що ж може зробити міжнародна організація, для того, щоб їх не експлуатували? Говорить Роджер Плант: «Існують міжнародні конвенції, підписані цими державами, і ми наполягаємо на їхньому повному втіленні. Ми також вимагаємо захисту цих робітників від експлуатації з боку національного законодавства, як у галузі праці, так і кримінального законодавства. Російська Дума нині готує законопроект, у якому спеціальне місце відводиться захисту від експлуатації закордонних робітників та криміналізації таких дій. Я вважаю, що це дуже добрий знак», - наголошує Роджер Плант.

Разом із цим він зауважує, що Конвенція про захист прав робітників-міґрантів одна із найменш ратифікованих у світі. І проблеми часто набагато гостріше постають у країнах Західної Європи. «Нас дедалі більше непокоять умови роботи українських робітників у деяких секторах сірої, а часами і легальної економіки, у деяких із цільових країн», - говорить керівник спеціальної програми щодо боротьби із примусовою працею Міжнародної Організації Праці. У звіті, який організація представила на Економічному Форумі країн ОБСЄ, що проходив цього тижня у Празі, наводяться приклади експлуатації, якої зазнають українські сезонні робітники у британському сільському господарстві.

На Закарпатті – землетрус

(ForUm)—20–го травня на відстані 32 кілометрів від Ужгороду зареєстровано землетрус силою 3,5 балів за шкалою Ріхтера, епіцентр якого знаходиться на території Словаччини. В обласному центрі Закарпаття сила землетрусу досягала 3 балів, повідомили «Оглядачу» в пресслужбі МНС України. До 2.00 21-го травня на території області зареєстровано до 10 поштовхів меншої сили. Жертв, потерпілих і руйнувань немає.

Відбулося судове засідання у справі Чумаченко-Леонтьєв

(Прес-служба "Нашої України")—27 травня, о 10.00 в приміщенні Шевченківського районного суду столиці відбулося засідання за позовом Катерини Чумаченко до журналіста російського Громадського телебачення Михайла Леонтьєва, телекомпанії „Інтер" та видавництва „Киевские ведомости". На ньому вперше був присутнім відповідач Леонтьєв.

Як відомо, у програмі „Однако", що вийшла в ефір „Інтера" та ГРТ ще 2001 року, автор заявив, що дружина Віктора Ющенка є співробітницею Державного Департаменту США, а також Ради Національної Безпеки США. Вона, за його твердженнями була керівником проекту щодо захоплення влади в Україні, який передбачав скинення Кучми і обрання на президентський пост Ющенка.

Натомість за словами адвоката позивача Миколи Полудьоного, Катерина Чумаченко не є співробітником Держдепу США і ніколи не працювала на Раду Нацбезпеки цієї країни.

Адвокат переконаний, що тиражування програми „Однако" є політичним замовленням, мотивуючи свої твердження кількома аргументами. Так зокрема він вважає, що будь-який український журналіст мав би одразу помітити фактичні помилки, якими переповнена програма, та образливий тон необґрунтованої інформації. Скажімо, там ідеться, що Ющенко очолив Нацбанк у 1998 році, тоді як це сталося 1993 року. „Інтер" та „Киевские ведомости" поширили цю інформацію вже після того, як прес-секретар Віктора Ющенка Наталя Зарудна спростувала її на прес-конференції. Полудьоний зауважив, що „Киевские ведомости" та Інтер контролюються одним політико-економічним угрупованням. До того ж, передачу не було вказано у телеанонсах, і замість неї мала іти програма „Інтер-спорт". Адвокат зробив висновок, що програма „Однако" була замовлена і мала транслюватися в Україні саме у такому вигляді.

Полудьоний нарахував у програмі 9 фрагментів із фактичними помилками та один, який ображає честь Чумаченко.

Він зазначив, що програма „Однако", ведучим якої є Леонтьєв, показана по „Інтеру", а також її роздруківка у „КВ", є втручанням у приватне життя його підзахисної.

Катерина Чумаченко на бенкеті «Приятелів Дітей» в Торонті, 10–го травня.

Це, як підтверджують експерти, спричинило суттєве погіршення здоров'я Катерини Чумаченко, знизило можливості її спілкування з людьми, в неї значно підвищився артеріальний тиск, з'явився частий головний біль. Найгірше, що сталося з пані Катериною, це те, що вона внаслідок стресу втратила молоко для годування маленької донечки, яка важко захворіла. Чумаченко була змушена пройти курс лікування, але результати його не дозволяють говорити про повне одужання.

Психологічна експертиза довела, що у результаті фізичних та етичних страждань Чумаченко зазнала невідновних втрат здоров'я. Ці події перевищили поріг стресового опору її організму.

Тому сторона позивача вимагає від відповідачів відшкодувати Катерині Чумаченко моральну шкоду, задіяну їй в результаті розповсюдження образливої неправдивої інформації. Так „Інтер" згідно вимог позовної заяви має сплатити 100 тисяч гривень, „Киевские ведомости" – 75 тисяч, а сам Леонтьєв – 25 тисяч.

З Лук'янівського СІЗО звільнено двох членів УНА-УНСО

(Кореспондент.net)—Члени партії УНА-УНСО Олег Селега і Станіслав Самофалов, засуджені на 2 роки позбавлення волі за організацію масових заворушень 9 березня 2001 року, звільнені з-під варти, передають Українські Новини.

Про це повідомила прес-секретар партії Тетяна Чорновол.

Селега і Самофалов звільнені в зв'язку з тим, що провели під вартою 2 роки - термін, на який були засуджені Голосіївським районним судом Києва.

Через цю саму причину в п'ятницю, 23 травня, був звільнений Павлюк, а в березні був звільнений Андрій Косенко.

До звільнення Селега і Самофалов перебували в Лук'янівському слідчому ізоляторі, де ще залишаються під вартою 11 членів партії.

Зазначимо, що наприкінці грудня 2002 року Голосіївський районний суд Києва засудив 18 членів УНА-УНСО, обвинувачуваних у масових заворушеннях 9 березня 2001 року, до 2-5 років в'язниці.

Апеляційний суд Києва пом"якшив вирок 10 з 18 членам партії УНА-УНСО, знизивши найбільш суворі вироки на термін від 1 місяця до 1,5 років.

Усі 18 засуджених членів партії УНА-УНСО мають намір домагатися у Верховному Суді повного виправдання і зняття всіх вироків.

У Польщі на могилі автора гімну України буде побудовано меморіал

(Кореспондент.net)—Як відзначив заступник голови Львівської обласної адміністрації Степан Лукашик, на даний момент завершується розробка проекту меморіалу.

Будівельні роботи повинні бути проведені вже в цьому році, а його відкриття заплановане на 2004 рік.

Якщо погодні умови сприятимуть роботам, то це відбудеться в день народження Михайла Вербицького 4 березня 2004 року, якщо будівельникам дощі все-таки перешкодять, - тоді у День Конституції України 28 червня.

Фінансування робіт, за словами Степана Лукашика, здійснюватиметься з різних джерел, зокрема, на кошти української громади в Польщі, церкви, пожертвування підприємств.

Михайло Вербицький (1815-1870) - композитор, автор музики гімну "Ще не вмерла Україна".

Він навчався в Перемишльській гімназії та музичній школі. У 1850 році став священником. У 1863 написав музику до віршів Павла Чубинського "Ще не вмерла Україна".

У 1917 і 1992 роках цей твір офіційно визнано національним славнем України.

U.S. lawyers arrive to gather depositions for Lazarenko trial

By Taras Kuzio

(RFE/RL)—A team of U.S. defense and prosecution attorneys have arrived in Ukraine, where they will collect depositions over the next three-six weeks from more than 100 Ukrainian officials, including President Leonid Kuchma, in preparation for the trial of former Ukrainian Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko. Lazarenko is charged by the United States with embezzling $114 million during his tenure as prime minister from May 1996-July 1997 and as governor of Dnipropetrovsk Oblast from 1992-95. He is the most prominent foreign citizen to be prosecuted in the United States after Panamanian dictator Manuel Noriega, who was convicted on narcotics charges in 1992.

Lazarenko was one of numerous officials from Dnipropetrovsk, the traditional home base of Ukraine's ruling elites in the Soviet era, who were brought to Kyiv after Kuchma was elected president in 1994. Lazarenko was appointed prime minister in 1996 but served only one year in that post before being replaced by another Dnipropetrovsk native, Valeriy Pustovoytenko. Pustovoytenko led the government until the 1999 presidential elections, when he handed over a nearly bankrupt country to Viktor Yushchenko.

Of Ukraine's 10 governments since 1992, Lazarenko's is generally considered the most corrupt, although any analysis of this question will inevitably be hampered by a lack of comparative evidence. Lazarenko was never charged or prosecuted while prime minister. The Ukrainian authorities began investigating his possible involvement in corruption only after he went into opposition in late 1997, at which time the West was beginning to focus on the extent of money laundering in the former USSR.

Having secured his capital base through control of the energy market, Lazarenko became the only Ukrainian oligarch ever to go into opposition to the executive, creating the now-defunct Hromada political party, which crossed the 4 percent threshold for parliamentary representation in the March 1998 elections. Hromada challenged Kuchma in his home base of Dnipropetrovsk and, worse still for Kuchma, entered an alliance with the Socialists led by Kuchma's longtime opponent, Oleksandr Moroz, and Yevhen Marchuk, prime minister in 1995-96.

Kuchma construed Lazarenko's alignment with the opposition as a personal betrayal. In addition to Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko, four people posed a threat to Kuchma's re-election as president in 1999. Former National Bank Chairman Vadym Hetman, who was set to finance Yushchenko's presidential candidacy, was killed in 1998. Lazarenko has been charged in absentia with involvement in the assassinations of parliamentary deputy Yevhen Shcherban in 1996 and Hetman in 1998. Rukh head and long-time dissident Vyacheslav Chornovil died in what is now considered a suspicious car accident in March 1999. Marchuk, who lasted just one year as Lazarenko's predecessor as prime minister, continued his opposition to Kuchma until the second round of the 1999 presidential elections, when he was co-opted by Kuchma as secretary of the National Security and Defense Council and has remained marginalized ever since.

In 1998-99, Lazarenko also set his sights on the 1999 presidential elections, and it was that which prompted the authorities to institute the corruption charges that led parliament to strip him of his immunity. At that juncture, the authorities could have demonstratively arrested Lazarenko and placed him on trial. This, though, would have revealed too much possibly incriminating information about other persons who benefited from his alleged corrupt activities as prime minister. Lazarenko was therefore allowed to leave Ukraine "for medical treatment" in February 1999 and he fled to the United States. He requested asylum upon his arrest by U.S. authorities and has denied the embezzlement charges, and remains in detention in San Francisco.

Ironically, the present situation in Ukraine differs little from that in1997-99. A high-profile corruption trial held in 1998-99 would have negatively affected Kuchma's election chances in 1999. Lazarenko's trial is due to begin in August in a San Francisco district court, and is expected to run throughout the campaign leading up to the October 2004 presidential elections. Although the executive and oligarchs control television, which likely means little coverage of the trial will be aired on domestic media, events since the Kuchmagate crisis began in November 2000 show that it is impossible to block all sources of information to Ukrainians.

The Lazarenko trial will therefore exacerbate the crisis facing the executive branch as it attempts to ensure the election as president of a loyal successor who would guarantee Kuchma immunity from prosecution. Recent changes in legislation in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan suggest that other CIS leaders also fear they might be vulnerable to allegations of corruption once they step down from office.

The U.S. team in Ukraine seeks to take depositions from people who will never attend the Lazarenko trial. As Lazarenko's attorney, Dennis Riordan, said, "Nothing like this has ever been attempted." Lazarenko's lawyers seek to obtain testimony as to how the gas market was divided up in the 1990s in Ukraine, with the intention of arguing that any resultant corruption extended far beyond Lazarenko personally.

Prosecuting attorneys have submitted a list of 50 Ukrainian officials they want to interview, while lawyers representing Lazarenko have said they want to interview up to 100 officials. U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Carlos Pascual has admitted that Kuchma is among the officials on those lists, although some reports state he might refuse to cooperate with the U.S. team. Ukrainian legislation deems a refusal to provide evidence a criminal offense, although this might not be applicable to the president, who has immunity. Kuchma is accused by the defense of receiving "expensive gifts" from Lazarenko (to whom Kuchma awarded two state medals), and of either turning a blind eye to, or conniving in, Lazarenko's illegal activities. Others to be interviewed include Marchuk; Pustovoytenko, who has said he will not cooperate with the U.S. prosecutors; First Deputy Prime Minister and former Tax Administration head Mykola Azarov; oligarch Viktor Pinchuk, who is Kuchma's son-in-law; and oppositionist and former Lazarenko business partner Yuliya Tymoshenko.

Dr. Taras Kuzio is a resident fellow at the Centre for Russian and East European Studies, University of Toronto, and visiting fellow at the Institute for Security Studies-EU, Paris.

Ukranian plane crashes in Turkey

(RFE/RL)—A Ukrainian transport plane carrying Spanish military personnel returning from a mission in Afghanistan crashed in northwest Turkey May 26.

Turkish media report that the 62 passengers and 12 crew members were all killed.

Aviation officials said the YAK-42 plane was attempting to land in thick fog to refuel when it crashed on a mountain near the Black Sea port of Trabzon.

Trabzon Governor Aslan Yildirim said Turkish soldiers had recovered 25 charred bodies from the wreckage hours after the crash.

Private NTV television said the plane was flying from the Kyrgyz capital Bishkek to Zaragoza, Spain.

The troops from Spain were part of the International Security Assistance Force in Kabul, and they had helped with mine clearing and other tasks.

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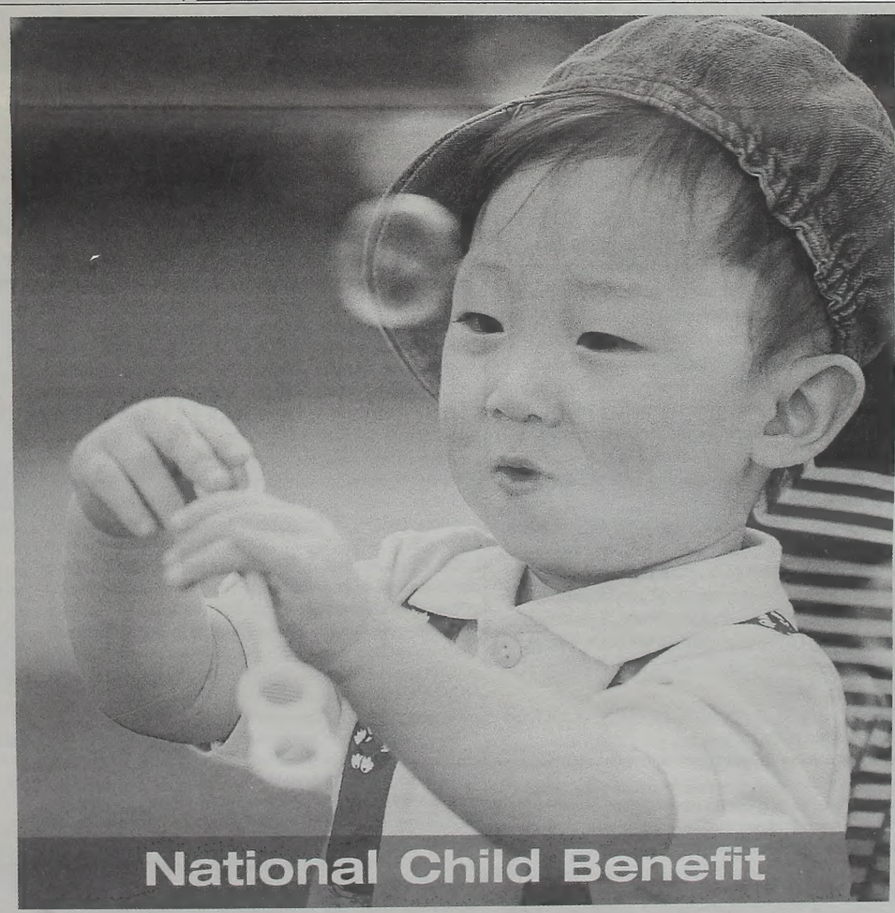

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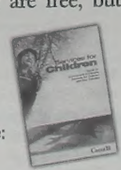

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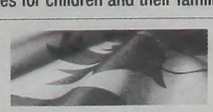

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Diaspora should help ensure free and honest elections

One of the most interesting ideas to have come out the recent visit of "Our Ukraine" leader Viktor Yushchenko to Canada is the proposal to create a committee for honest elections in Ukraine.

The proposal was made to Yushchenko by representatives of the Ukrainian community here in Canada, but were quickly picked up by the popular reformist. As he pointed out there are 32,000 polling stations in Ukraine and tens of thousand of observers will be needed.

The Ukrainian community in Canada has many people who are experienced in the democratic process and can help ensure that fair elections are followed.

And this does not constitute interference in the internal politics of Ukraine. It merely ensures that Ukrainian citizens themselves have the right to make their own democratic decision in a fair and honest way.

We are positive that if the people of Ukraine are given that right they will make the right decision. For the last two years, polls have shown Yushchenko to be the most popular politician in Ukraine and all signs point to a victory by his democratic reformist coalition.

The problem is that the ruling oligarchs view a possible victory by Yushchenko as a threat to their selfish interests. Not only would the creation of economic transparency and establishment of honest market rules whittle down the immense profits they have pocketed at the expense of the people of Ukraine, but they may even face criminal charges for all that they have plundered over the past 12 years.

They may go to any lengths to guarantee that their hold on power continues. The falsification of election results thus is a very real possibility. There has been considerable falsification of election results in the past — both in the presidential referendums and in the 2002 elections to parliament. The votes in the first-past-the-post single member constituencies are the most dishonest. That's how the pro-presidential forces managed to take over parliament despite getting roundly rejected by the voters in the more transparent proportionate vote.

There will be much more at stake in the 2004 presidential elections, thus even more manipulation can be expected.

That is precisely why these tens of thousands of independent observers will be needed.

Yushchenko also urged Diaspora representatives to "sound the alarm" about honest elections during the upcoming World Forum of Ukrainians in Kyiv this summer. He believes the more noise we make about the need to ensure free and honest elections, the more pressure there will be upon the authorities to try and keep them as honest as possible.

Ukraine stands at a crossroads. For the first time in the 12-year history of Ukraine the voters are likely to reject the totalitarian alternative of the past and the pseudo-democratic corporatists authoritarian hybrid of the present and opt for a democratic, civilized course in the future.

Provided, of course, they get the chance to choose their options in a fair an honest manner.

We, in the Diaspora, may voice our opinions as to what future course Ukraine should take, but that option should be up to the citizens of Ukraine themselves.

But providing observers for the presidential elections leaves those options to the Ukrainian voters themselves.

All we want to do is see to it that they get a free and honest chance to choose their options.

Stalin's apologist

New York Times scandal sparks memories of far worse one

By Paul Jackson, *Calgary Sun, May 20, 2003*

Commentary

A New York Times journalist wins the famed Pulitzer Prize as a reward for covering up and fabricating reports about one of the greatest atrocities of the 20th century.

This particular villain's name was Walter Duranty and what he did fully 70 years ago was convince most of the world that allegations claiming Soviet dictator Josef Stalin engineered the mass starvation of as many as 12 million Ukrainian peasants and farmers was simply anti-communist propaganda. We now know this appalling crime of genocide — akin to the Nazi persecution of the Jews of Europe in Adolf Hitler's death camps — was true.

Yet Duranty was hailed at the time as the dean of foreign correspondents and a man whose reports could be trusted absolutely. They actually convinced President Franklin Delano Roosevelt to give official recognition to the communist government that seized power in Russia.

Under Stalin, now accepted to be one of the most brutal dictators of all times, Duranty reported peace and prosperity were sweeping the Soviet Union and communism was the vanguard of the future. There were no Gulags, no secret trials of dissidents. The Soviet Union was truly becoming a worker's paradise. Yet the opposite was true. One man, the British journalist Malcolm Muggeridge, actually revealed Duranty's deceit back in 1933 when he took a secret and dangerous excursion across the Soviet Union and witnessed Stalin's campaign of slaughter for himself.

Men, women and children — skin and bones — were begging for pitiful handfuls of grains while Stalin's henchmen stood guard over full granaries and turned them away. Muggeridge, who became a legend in later life, was vilified for his truthful reports. He actually lost his job on the Manchester Guardian, and it took years to regain his reputation. Duranty was honoured not only by Stalin, but by his masters at the New York Times. What a charade.

I write about the Duranty deceit now for two reasons: One, the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association has launched a campaign to have the New York Times strip Duranty posthumously of his Pulitzer Prize, and because the New York Times is now embroiled in yet another huge scandal of one of its staff members plagiarizing and fabricating stories over a long period of time. The journalist — or I should say so-called journalist — is one Jayson Blair — who incredibly now stands to make a stack of money by penning a book on his shameful exploits! In comparison to Duranty's betrayal, Blair is rather small fry.

But what should anger all of us is that the lib-left New York Times is perhaps the most arrogant and egotistical daily newspaper in the U.S. It regards itself as better than any other metropolitan daily newspaper. Now, once again, it has egg all over its face — well-deserved egg, too.

Many readers know I have championed the cause of both Ukrainian freedom and the great contributions Ukrainian Canadians have made to our own country. Lubomyr Luciuk, head of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association, is a fine man and a great friend of mine. He and his associates, such as Marta D. Olynyk, have worked tirelessly to reveal the awful nature of this man-made famine, and the attempts to cover it up. In Calgary, in 1999, a monument was erected on Memorial Drive to the victims of this unforgivable atrocity.

Sally Taylor, author of Stalin's Apologist: Walter Duranty, The New York Times Man in Moscow (Oxford University Press 1990) fully documented how Duranty covered up the truth and distorted matters to ingratiate himself to Stalin and his murderous henchmen. Malcolm Muggeridge himself described Duranty as the "Greatest liar of any journalist I have ever met." Famed American commentator Joseph Alsop would later say of Duranty that "lying was his stock in trade."

For his falsifications, Jayson Blair has been banished from the New York Times, but Walter Duranty paid no penalty for his outrageous behaviour. The Times and the Pulitzer Prize Committee still claim Duranty received his award for work before his sham reporting in the Soviet Union in 1932-33. This is like suggesting an apologist for Adolf Hitler and the Nazi regime should still be honoured for earlier endeavours.

Ukrainians the world over deserve justice, and the Times should give them that justice by stripping Duranty of his Pulitzer Prize now. Right now.

Role of Alberta Ukrainian Heritage Foundation explained

Letters to the Editor

Dear Mr. Levytsky:

In your report on the reception held for Ukrainian Consul-General Ihor Lossovskyi on May 1, 2003, ("Consulate needs central location, Lossovsky says," Ukrainian News, May 14-27, 2003), I was both pleased and disappointed — pleased to see your report and disappointed that you omitted entirely the role of the Alberta Ukrainian Heritage Foundation (AUHF) in sponsoring the event. Please note that Consul-General Lossovskyi was guest of honour of the AUHF, and not of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians (AUUC); even though the reception was held on the premises shared by they two organizations.

In organizing this event, we invited people from the entire range of ideological beliefs within the Ukrainian Canadian community in Edmonton. Your presence at this reception was appreciated as was the attendance of the five members of the Executive Committee of the Edmonton AUUC Branch. It is the view of the members of the AUHF that there is a great need to promote a healing process within our ethnic community. You will recall that, in addition to Consul-General Lossovskyi, there were speakers from the Foundation on the program: Walter Makowecki who is the President, George Moskal who is a Director, and myself. Each one stressed, in his own way, the need to replace the animosities that have racked the Ukrainian Canadian community for decades, with cordial relations and cooperation.

Finally, allow me to offer a clarification of information given in the second and third last paragraphs of your article. The AUHF is a co-sponsor of the project in Ukraine involving the preparation and publishing of a book on relations between Ukraine and the Ukrainian Canadian community during the decades prior to Ukrainian independence — not "on Canada-Ukraine relations." This book is being done jointly with several members of the Institute of History, Ukrainian Academy of Sciences. While plans are being discussed with the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies for a Canadian launching of this book, the Board of Directors of the AUHF has as yet made no firm commitment on the matter.

Dr. Marshall A. Nay, Managing Director
Alberta Ukrainian Heritage Foundation

Ukrainian News a mouthpiece for Chretien, Kuchma?

Dear Sirs:

I have recently received your request that I renew my subscription with your newspaper. Thanks but no thanks.

Since your open endorsement of Chretien and his Liberal Party about a year ago I have had my eyes open to the fact that you operate as a mouthpiece for our third world/soviet style dictator and his cronies here in Canada. No doubt you support his political cousin Kuchma in Ukraine. Why shouldn't you?

Don't fret about losing my support, I'm sure you'll find some way to get a Liberal subsidy.

Don Puhach, Winnipeg

Famine (Part 2) — Survivors recall the horrors of 1933

By Askold Krushelnycky

This year marks the 70th anniversary of a devastating famine deliberately engineered by Soviet leader Josef Stalin that claimed at least five million lives in Ukraine and around two million in the North Caucasus and elsewhere. RFE/RL correspondent Askold Krushelnycky speaks to survivors about their memories of that devastating time.

(RFE/RL)—Seventy years ago, the month of May saw the climax of a horrific artificial famine that reduced millions of people to living skeletons in some of the world's most fertile farm land, while stocks of grain and other foods rotted by the ton, often within the sight of families dying from starvation.

Oleksa Sonipul was 10 in 1933 and lived in a village in northern Ukraine. She said by the beginning of that year, famine was so widespread people had been reduced to eating grass, tree bark, roots, berries, frogs, birds, and even earthworms.

Desperate hunger drove people to sell off all of their possessions for any food they could find. At night, an eerie silence fell over the village, where all the livestock and chickens had long since been killed for food and exhausted villagers went to bed early.

But Communist requisition brigades looking to fulfill the impossibly high grain quotas continued to search even those villages where inhabitants were already dying from starvation. They used metal poles to probe the ground and potential hiding places where they suspected grain could be hidden.

Some of the brigade members, fueled by Soviet hate campaigns against the peasants, acted without mercy, taking away the last crumbs of food from starving families knowing they were condemning even small children to death. Any peasant who resisted was shot. Rape and robbery also took place.

Sonipul described what happened when a brigade arrived at her home.

"In 1933, just before Christmas, brigades came to our village to search for bread. They took everything they could find to eat. That day they found potatoes that we had planted in our grandfather's garden, and because of that they took everything from grandfather and all the seeds that grandmother had gathered for sowing the following autumn. And the next day, the first day of Christmas, they came to us, tore out our windows and doors and took everything to the collective farm."

As food ran out in the villages, thousands of desperate people trekked to beg for food in towns and cities. Food was available in cities, although strictly controlled through ration coupons. But residents were forbidden to help the starving peasants and doctors were not allowed to aid the skeletal villagers, who were left to die on the streets.

Fedir Burtianski was a young man in 1933 when he set out by train to Ukraine's Donbas mining area in search of work. He says thousands of starving peasants, painfully thin with swollen bellies, lined the rail track begging for food. The train stopped in the city of Dnipropetrovsk and Burtianski says he was horrified by what he saw there.

"At Dnipropetrovsk we got out of the carriages. I got off the wagon and I saw very many people swollen and half-dead. And some who were lying on the ground and just shaking. Probably they were going to die within a few minutes. Then the railway NKVD [secret police] quickly herded us back into the wagons."

Grain and potatoes continued to be harvested in Ukraine, driven by the demand of Stalin's quotas. But the inefficiency of the Soviet transportation system meant that tons of food literally rotted uneaten — sometimes in the open and within the view of those dying of starvation.

The scene Burtianski described was repeated in towns and cities all over Ukraine. In the countryside, entire villages were being wiped out. The hunger drove many people to desperation and madness. Many instances of cannibalism were recorded, with people living off the remains of other starvation victims or in some instances resorting to murder. Most peasant families had five or six children, and some mothers killed their weakest children in order to feed the others.

Burtianski said at one point, he avoided buying meat from a vendor because he suspected it was human flesh. When the authorities heard about the incident, he was forced to attend the trial of a man and his two sons who were suspected of murdering people for food. Burtianski says during the trial one of the sons admitted in chilling terms to eating the flesh of his own mother, who had died of starvation.

"He said, 'Thank you to Father Stalin for depriving us of food. Our mother died of hunger and we ate her, our own dead mother. And after our mother we did not take pity on anyone. We would not have spared Stalin himself.'"

Mykhaylo Naumenko was 11 years old in 1933. His father was executed for refusing to join a nearby collective farm. Mykhaylo was left with his mother and siblings to face the famine without a provider. He said people were shot for trying to steal grain or potatoes from the local collective farm, which was surrounded by barbed wire and guarded by armed men. He said people were executed even for trying to pick up a few loose seeds dropped on the ground.

"A tragedy developed. People became swollen, they died by the tens each day. The collective farm authorities appointed six men to collect and bury the dead. From our village of 75 homes, by May 24 houses were empty where all the inhabitants had died."

Naumenko also witnessed instances of cannibalism. He said he first discovered that his neighbors were eating human flesh after one of them, called Tetyana, refused to share her meat with him despite the fact he had just helped bury her father.

"I saw Tetyana eating chicken meat and saw there was a lot of it. I approached her and asked her for some, but she refused to give me any. Because it was human flesh."

Hundreds were executed or killed by other villagers for cannibalism. Soviet records show that around 1,000 people were still serving sentences for cannibalism in prison camps on the White Sea at the end of the 1930s.

Olena Mukniak was 10 in 1933 and lived in a village in the Poltavschyna region with her mother, older sister, and younger brother. Her father had left for the Donbas area in search of food. In the village, Mukniak said people picked through horse manure to find grain, stewed leather boots, and toasted leaves and tree bark.

"What do you do if there's nothing to eat? We collected birch leaves and toasted them and ate them. What else could we do?"

Her sister worked at the collective farm and received a small piece of bread every day for all four of them. But it was not enough to keep them all alive.

"My brother died from starvation. He was small and there was nothing to eat. What could our mother give us to eat when there was nothing? My sister brought us a little piece of bread once a day and we gulped it down and waited until the next day. But you wanted food all the time. My brother was younger than I and he died because he needed to eat. And our mother could give nothing."

Many people met their deaths with quiet resignation, praying and comforting their starving children with fairy tales.

Not all authorities were untouched by the tragedy. Some of the Communist activists and officials supervising the grain expropriation were horrified at what they saw and protested to their superiors or tried to provide food for the starving villagers. For their efforts, they were executed.

For scores of senior Ukrainian Communists, the famine and Stalin's attack on the Ukrainian cultural revival were cause for their final disillusionment with the ideology they had served. Many of them committed suicide rather than face torture and show trials.

Until the fall of communism, most of the villager eyewitnesses who survived the famine were wary of telling their stories. Even now, many are reluctant to talk about that period because they see many Soviet-era holdovers still in positions of power.

The memories that seem to haunt them most are those of watching their loved ones die. Teodora Soroka, who lost nearly every member of her family to "dekulakization" and famine, says such memories can never be erased. Nor does she want to forget them.

"My little sister died of hunger in my arms. She was begging for a piece of bread, because to have a piece of bread in the house meant life. She pleaded for me to give her a bit of bread. I was crying and told her that we didn't have any. She told me that I wanted her to die. Believe me, it's painful even now. I was little myself then. I cried, but my heart was not torn to shreds because I couldn't understand why this was all happening. But today, and ever since I became an adult, I haven't spent a day in my life when I haven't cried. I have never gone to sleep without thinking about what happened to my family."

The last part of this series looks at why the world still knows so little about the calamitous man-made famine of 1933 that killed millions of people.

Spot the reformers

By Taras Kuzio

In the last decade, a sizeable body of academics and a larger number of journalists have written negatively about Rukh and the national democrats in Ukraine. National democrats are usually described as "nationalists" who are hostile to both Russia and Russians within Ukraine.

Such views have been supported within academia because of the dominance of former Sovietologists turned Russian specialists. Another factor is that Western media are still largely based only in Moscow, as it was in the former USSR, from where they cover the entire CIS. Kyiv had a large number of journalists from most Western English-language newspapers in the early 1990s but this has dwindled to only the "Financial Times." Western correspondents in Kyiv were never salaried (which was reserved for Moscow) but merely stringers.

The newly published 300-page volume by Mikhail Molchanov entitled "Political Culture and National Identity in Russian-Ukrainian Relations" (College Station, TX: Texas A & M University Press, 2002) follows in this tradition. The volume paints a picture of a radical, anti-Russian nation-building project in Ukraine that is "ghettoizing" Russians (p.200). Ukraine's nation-building project is allegedly copying the assimilationist French model. The "nationalist Diaspora," which returned to Ukraine in the early 1990s, "now spearheads the so-called national-democratic right in parliament" (p.182). Rukh is, of course, deemed to be a rabid "nationalist" organization (p.93).

Molchanov and this earlier tradition of scholars and journalists have been unable to grapple with what is the centrality of those they disparage as "nationalists" (i.e., national democrats) to blocking Ukraine's advance towards corporatist authoritarianism. They are also the main hope for Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic integration. In addition, the picture they paint is untrue. Between the 1989 Soviet and 2001 Ukrainian censuses the proportion of Ukrainians giving Ukrainian as their "native language" declined by 2 percent. Meanwhile, the only deaths from ethnic violence in Ukraine have been a Ukrainian singer in Lviv and Tatars in the Crimea, which in both cases were at the hands of Russian speakers.

Ukraine's political spectrum conveniently falls into three camps. The centre-right national democrats, oligarchic-controlled centrists and the left (moderate Socialists and neo-Stalinist Communists, the KPU). The entire opposition are in different ways opposed to the creeping authoritarianism supported by the executive. The KPU, though, refused to support the protests that arose out of the "Kuchmagate" crisis in November 2000 and backed the oligarchs in voting no confidence in the Viktor Yushchenko government in April 2001. Former Prosecutor-General and KPU deputy Mykhaylo Potebenko provided the key one additional vote that gave the pro-presidential majority the minimum 226 votes to elect presidential administration head Volodymyr Lytvyn as parliamentary chairman.

There is no doubt about the Socialist Party (SPU), led by Oleksandr Moroz, which has shown a wholehearted commitment to democratization and staunch opposition (unlike the KPU) to executive-driven authoritarianism and corruption. If ever there was a genuine leftist party in Ukraine deserved of an invitation to join the Socialist International, it is the SPU. The SPU, unlike the oligarchic Social Democratic Party-united (SDPU-o), was invited to the May congress of the German Social Democrats. Nevertheless, the SPU is not committed to market economic reform (including land reform) and Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic integration.

What then of the centrists as an alternative to "nationalists" (i.e., national democrats). In Ukraine there is not a single major centrist party that is not controlled by oligarchs. The last genuine centrist reformist party, Volodymyr Hrynyov's Inter-Regional Bloc of Reforms (which was part of Leonid Kuchma's 1994 election bloc and the failed SLON bloc in the 1998 elections), was absorbed by the oligarchic Popular Democratic Party (NDP) in 2001, led by discredited former Prime Minister Valery Pustovoytenko.

Oligarchs have either captured established, dormant centrist parties (e.g., the Green Party, PZU) or launched internal coup d'etats and gained control of parties by pushing out genuine reformers (e.g., SDPU-o and NDP). Reformers who were pushed out of the SDPU-o and the NDP moved to the national democrats. Other centrist parties were created from scratch, such as the Agrarians (AU), Labor Ukraine (TU), and Regions of Ukraine (RU).

These centrist parties have three factors in common. First, many of them are Russian-speaking, making them more similar to the KPU than the Ukrainophone SPU and national democrats. The two exceptions are the AU and the NDP. Nearly all of the newspapers created by centrist parties are in Russian (e.g., "Kievskii telegraf" and "Fakty" by the TU, "Segodnya" by RU, and "Kievskie vedomosti" by SDPU-o).

Second, all of them are pro-presidential. This means they prefer the authoritarian political system increasingly evident in Ukraine during Kuchma's second term in office since 1999. This reflects the strong domination of Soviet political culture found among them, which prefers a "hybrid" system combining elements of the Soviet and Western political-economic systems. In the foreign domain this has translated into a vague and constantly shifting "multivector" foreign policy.

Third, centrists are ideologically amorphous. Ideology plays second fiddle to short-term economic and political gain and power. Centrist parties are top-down fake parties with forcibly conscripted memberships. What of former oligarchs who have turned against the executive? Both former Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko and Deputy Prime Minister Yuliya Tymoshenko joined the radical opposition. In both cases their parties, Hromada and Fatherland respectively, had no choice but to align themselves with the SPU and national democrats in populist opposition to centrist oligarchs.

Consequently, the only genuine political and economic reformist movement in Ukraine is the national-democratic Our Ukraine bloc led by Yushchenko. The popularity of the pro-Western reformist Our Ukraine, as seen in its victory in the 2002 elections, and Yushchenko's personal popularity, makes Ukraine different from all other CIS states. Without the national democrats Ukraine would be closer to an archetypal CIS state, such as Russia. More importantly, progress in Ukraine's reform process and integration into Euro-Atlantic structures is dependent on the "nationalist" national democrats. The SPU and Tymoshenko bloc are their allies in blocking centrist authoritarianism.

Centrists are the main driving force supporting an authoritarian regime in Ukraine. Sadly, there are no genuine centrist parties left who would stand in opposition to them.

PHOTO — ROMAN PETRIW

Community Development Minister Gene Zwozdesky presents Dr. Roman Petryshyn with his Queen's Jubilee Medal.

Dr, Petryshyn awarded Queen's Jubilee Medal

(UkrNews)—The Director of the Ukrainian Resource and Development Centre (URDC) at Grant MacEwan College was surprised to be awarded the Queen's Jubilee Medal at the Kyiv Konnection Banquet in Edmonton, May 22.

The presentation was made by Alberta Community Development Minister Gene Zwozdesky who called Dr. Roman Petryshyn "a most dedicated member of our Ukrainian community who has truly distinguished himself as a leader, an innovator, a motivator and a tireless volunteer."

Dr. Petryshyn is also developer and manager of GMCC Ukraine, the college's representative office in Kyiv. In 1996-97 he was also responsible for the GMCC office in Tyumen, Russia.

Among the projects he has managed are:

2000-2004: Co-director of the "Health Education Learning project (HELP)", funded by CIDA ($3.2 million) to train faculty at the Tyumen State Medical University, Russia, and to transfer the Bachelor of Applied Human Service Management degree and the Nursing Upgrading program to Russia.

1997-2000: Co-director of the "Canadian Business Management project in Ukraine (CBMPU)" funded by CIDA ($1.6 million) to train Ukrainian faculty to deliver the College's management diploma program in Kyiv. The program became self-funding with tits second cohort of students.

1996-1997: Project manager of the "Organizational Readiness Project" funded by CIDA ($249,000) to assist the reintegration of 26 health professionals from Yamalo-Nanetsk, & Tyumen back into her work environment. A college office was opened in Russia at the Tyumen Medical Academy for this purpose.

1996-1997: Project manager of the "Reform of the Novosibirsk Health Care System". A joint project of Grant MacEwan Community College and the Siberian Branch of the Russian Medical Academy of Medical Sciences (Novosibirsk) in partnership with the Siberian Business Development Corporation (Calgary) and funded ($100,000) by the University of Calgary - Gorbachev Foundation Joint Trust Fund.

1994-1995: Project manager of the "Agri-Business Learning Materials Project" funded by CIDA ($604,200). This project developed 600 pages of Ukrainian self-study materials in modules for college students and farmers, and prepared teachers.

1991-1993: Project manager of the "Agriculture Curriculum Development Project", funded by CIDA ($690,000). The outcome was the development of new curriculum and instructors trained in design methods. The curriculum was approved and implemented in six agriculture colleges in Ukraine.

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McLellan notes community's role in assisting government

(UkrNews)—Canada's Ukrainian community plays a key role in assisting government in helping Ukraine during its transformation period, says Health Minister Anne McLellan.

"I know that when dealing with this type of complex issues and situations, it is important for our Canadian community to have a voice in how the Canadian government manages these complex issues. And certainly I, and I know our entire government, welcome members of your community to continue to dialogue with me and with other members of the government of Canada. It is apparent to all that this community has demonstrated its commitment and willingness to improve Ukrainian political and economic situation, and the Canadian government needs to play a vital role in that transformation," she said during her keynote address at the Kyiv Konnection fundraising banquet in Edmonton, May 22.

"I encourage the Ukrainian Canadian community to continue to engage the government of Canada, the government of Alberta, civil society in this country, on a wide variety of issues, because in fact your engagement will help shape the future of this country and I do believe it will help shape the future of Ukraine," she added.

McLellan's address focused on the work of the Ukrainian Foundation for College Education in who's benefit the banquet was held, and other Canadian projects helping Ukraine.

In partnership with Grant MacEwan College the UFCE has established education programs in Ukraine which offer human resource management and business management programs, programs for the hard of hearing children and nursing programs.

She also noted the Osvita program of the University of Alberta for training Ukrainian doctors in Canada, the Canada-Ukraine Legislative Program of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, also at the U of A, and the Toronto-based Children of Chornobyl project.

PHOTO — ROMAN PETRIW

Anne McLellan waves to the crowd at the Kyiv Konnection banquet.

McLellan paid particular attention to projects in the health field, referring to a recent visit of a delegation from Ukraine.

"I did not know until the delegation came from Ukraine that in fact this is a yearly event where in fact a significant number of Ukrainian health professionals come to Canada and they spend time in Ottawa working with Health Canada, and these are not casual contacts. These are working sessions, and our visitors from Ukraine identified areas in which they would want in depth planning sessions, educational sessions before they come. And then Health Canada works to put them together, as do a number of the provinces including Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario, and I must say I was very, very impressed with the details and the in depth educational and exchange of ideas, educational experience and exchange of ideas that takes place during this period of time."

Bringing greetings from the provincial government, Community Development Minister Gene Zwozdesky said the Alberta government will soon be providing $500,000 for an education awards program focusing on Ukraine through the Department of Learning. (Details of the program were not yet available from the communications office of the Ministry of Learning at the time this issue went to press.)

On behalf of the City of Edmonton, Councilor Terry Cavanaugh noted that the role the Ukrainian community played in the growth of Edmonton is "just phenomenal".

UFCE President Alan Skoreyko presented the President's Award to Ivan Kupchenko and Dennis Kowalishin of the Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Trust of Sherwood Park in recognition of their recent $84,000 donation .

Edward Piasta served as Master of Ceremonies, while musical entertainment was provided by the St. Nicholas Mandolin Ensemble.

PHOTO — IHOR KODAK

Ambassador visits Saskatoon School

Canada's Ambassador to Ukraine, Andrew Robinson, recently visited Ukrainian communities in Canada. Pictured above: he is greeted by students of the Ukrainian Bilingual program at St. Nicholas Holy Family School in Saskatoon, May 7.

Desna Dancers

A night to remember

Help Us Help the Children celebrates 10 years

(10th Anniversary Gala Organizing Committee)—It was a very special evening for the Children Of Chornobyl Canadian Fund and its largest project "Help Us Help The Children". On May 10 more than 500 volunteers and supporters of HUHTC gathered in the Barbara Frum Atrium of the Canadian Broadcasting Centre in Toronto to celebrate 10 years of hard work and achievement.

The evening was filled with drama and excitement with many of the organization's key benefactors in attendance. Among them was Eugene Melnyk, newly minted owner of the Ottawa Senators. Melnyk left the Senators' game in overtime to fly from Ottawa to Toronto to address the gathering. Also in attendance was Viktor Yushchenko, former Premier of Ukraine and leading contender for the upcoming Presidential elections. Yushchenko re-arranged his travel plans for a week-long visit to Canada, arriving a day earlier to attend the HUHTC Gala. Closer to home, Jim and Louise Temerty, also generous benefactors of the project, took time out from their fundraising activities for the Royal Ontario Museum to assist in the organization of the event.

Under the soaring ten-storey Atrium of the Canadian Broadcasting Centre, the evening was launched with a moving dance executed by the Arkan dancers entitled "Always One More", choreographed especially for the gala by Danovia Stechishen.

The dance was immediately followed by a prayer — "Bohorodytse Divo" — sung by Olenka Slywynska accompanied by Daria Filip, both volunteers of the project. Bishop Cornelius Pasichny blessed the meal.

The evening's program featured addresses of the three key supporters of the project, Temerty, Melnyk and Yushchenko, as well as greetings from the federal and municipal governments. A brief video prepared for the evening by Ihor Krut, highlighted the past t10 years of the project's work. Scenes depicting delivery of humanitarian aid, the organization of summer camps, the provision of medical and dental services to the orphans and abandoned children in Ukraine, gave the audience a good overview of the complex and multi-faceted work of the organization. The video also included scenes of students participating in HUHTC's recently established scholarship program.

The Gala featured a surprise guest, Milya Mashkovtseva, one of the orphans under HUHTC's care since 1997,who was flown in from Ukraine especially for the event. Milya is now 20 years old, has completed her post-secondary education and is studying to become a lawyer. She speaks both English and Ukrainian, is engaged to be married and, in an effort to reciprocate,

PHOTOS — LU TASKEY

Milya Mashkovtseva

now volunteers with HUHTC in Ukraine. Milya is one of HUHTC's many success stories. She addressed the audience on behalf of the thousands of orphans assisted to express gratitude and appreciation.

A major element of the evening's rich and varied program, was the award of special medals of recognition to those volunteers that had made a significant contribution to the organization over the past 10 years. Ruslana Wresnewskyj co-founder and moving force behind the project, delivered a heartfelt speech of thanks and appreciation to her family, friends and supporters for their assistance over the past ten years. She also made a point of thanking her country Canada for nurturing a climate of volunteerism amongst its citizens.

The evening closed with two numbers from the Ukrainian Dance group "Desna" and was followed by dancing to the music of the "Kari Ochi" band. Attendees had the opportunity to put in their final bids for a large and varied Silent Auction in the lobby of the Canadian Broadcasting Centre.

Ruslana Wresnewskyj

James Temerty

PHOTO — PLATON BOYKO

Viktor Yushchenko visits Montreal with UCC -QPC President Rev. Dr. Ihor Kutash.

Yushchenko ends Canada visit

Cont. from page 3

He criticized Kuchma's proposed constitutional reforms, especially the creation of an upper chamber, which would consist exclusively of presidential appointees.

A referendum on the issue would be most dangerous. Not only do the authorities falsify votes in referendums, they could do away with parliament altogether leaving them a free hand to do as they wish, he said.

Yushchenko was introduced by Czolij, who noted his successful track record in initiating reforms during the term as prime minister from 1999 to 2001.

"The Ukrainian Canadian Congress and generally the entire conscious Ukrainian community in Canada fully understands the importance for Ukraine of serious and real reforms, a free market economy, fair privatization, a transparent legal and regulatory system, a fair system of taxation, further integration with western democracies and full adherence to the basic freedoms of a democratic society."

May 16 a banquet in honour of Yushchenko, organized by the UCC and the UCC Toronto Branch, was held at the Royal York Hotel in Toronto and attended by about 1,000 people.

During the banquet, UCC's President made an introductory speech.

Greetings were extended by the Minister of Canadian Heritage, Sheila Copps, the Premier of Ontario, Ernie Eves, Senator A. Raynell Andreychuk, the General Secretary of the Ukrainian World Congress, Victor Pedenko, the President of the World Federation of Ukrainian Womens' Organizations, Mary Szkambara, and Toronto City Councilor, Gloria Lindsay Luby. The Secretary of State for Multiculturalism, Jean Augustine, a Member of Parliament, Oleh Rybachuck, and the Consul General of Ukraine, Dr. Ihor Lossovskyi, also attended the banquet.

The leader of the "Our Ukraine" Coalition delivered the keynote address on the current state of Ukraine, the importance of democratic presidential elections in October 2004 and necessary reforms in Ukraine.

Yushchenko reiterated many of the themes he addressed in previous appearances.

Eaves said he was very proud of his Ukrainian origin.

His maternal grandparents came to Canada at the turn of the 20th century. His grandfather came first to work on the railroads in Manitoba. Soon after he was joined by the premier's grandmother and the two of the settled on a homestead in Alberta.

On May 17 a luncheon was held in Toronto for Yushchenko and representatives of UCC Member Organizations for an exchange of ideas on the inclusion of the Ukrainian Diaspora in the reform process in Ukraine.

Violence against Odesa media continues

(Eastern Economist)—The Odesa regional union of independent journalists reported on further oppression against journalists in the area.

On May 15, the lawyer for the independent TV channel Odesa Plus, Oleksandr Mizin, was beaten and hospitalized with a number of injuries.

He was carrying important documents relating to a number of court hearings with Odesa Plus as a respondent.

The statement of the union says, "this is another attempt to threaten journalists who spread information that does not always correspond to the opinion of the Odesa city administration. The crime against Oleksandr Mizin demonstrates that oral threats to independent mass media can lead to physical violence."

None of the crimes committed against journalists in Odesa have been investigated, among them assassinations of the Chief Editor of Evening Odesa newspaper, Borys Derevyanko, editor of the TV company New Odesa, Ihor Bondar, popular radio anchor Volodymyr Bahrter, beatings of journalists Ihor Rosov, Ihor Grinshtaine, and threats to kill Art TV news editor Liudmyla Dobrovolska.

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Прикарпатський університет імені Василя Стефаника готовий до відкриття Інституту туризму

Іван Костюк, *Радіо Свобода*

Інститут туризму при Прикарпатському університеті, про відкриття якого нещодавно заявляв ректорат, практично готовий до роботи. Ремонт приміщення інститут завершений, навчальні програми затверджені, і з вересня вже розпочнуться заняття. Це буде третій у державі заклад такого типу.

Напередодні відкриття Інституту туризму при Прикарпатському університеті імені Василя Стефаника ректорат вищого навчального закладу, представники обласної держадміністрації та туристичних фірм зібрались на спільну конференцію, щоб обговорити напрямки розвитку туризму в регіоні і підготовку фахівців для галузі. На конференції відзначалося, що інститути туризму в державі існують лише в Києві та Донецьку. На Прикарпатті, зважаючи на постійне зростання кількості туристичних фірм та число відпочивальників, відчувається гостра потреба в кваліфікованих кадрах. Особливо страждає від нестачі фахівців сфера обслуговування. І попри всі заяви, що туристична Івано-Франківщина відкрита для прийому гостей, приймати їх на належному рівні дотепер не вміють. Ситуацію коментує Павло Гришевський, голова обласної Асоціації зеленого туризму: "В загальній своїй масі на дуже початковому етапі розвитку ми можемо розхраховувати лише на вітчизняного невибагливого туриста". Представники туристичних фірм, готелів, відпочинкових баз заявляли, що ті фахівці, яких зараз готують навчальні заклади міста Івано-Франківська, не задовольняють потреб туристичної сфери. Говорить директор турфірми Лілія Дземан: "До нас приходять на практику студенти, які абсолютно не готові до роботи. Вони не знають елементарних речей: ні культури, ні природи краю, ні традицій, ні мови". У новоствореному Інституті туризму викладатимуть три іноземні мови, географію, маркетинг та рекламу, основи митної справи, специфіку різних видів туризму та його організацію в цілому. Ректорат Прикарпатського університету обіцяє, що до викладання в Інституті туризму будуть залучені також представники кращих турфірм регіону. Значну частину навчального процесу буде відддано безпосередньо практичній роботі. Директори прикарпатських турфірм заявили, що готові взяти активну участь у підготовці фахівців, які навчатимуться в Інституті туризму. Про специфіку майбутнього навчання в Інституті туризму говорить ректор Прикарпатського університету імені Василя Стефаника Віталій Кононенко: "Частково ми будемо залучати практиків, які вже сьогодні займаються туристичною діяльністю в області. У нас є угода, яку ми уклали з Інститутом туризму в Києві. Вони будуть присилати до нас своїх людей. Наші люди їздитимуть до них". Поки що на стаціонар в Інститут туризму набирають 100 абітурієнтів за принципом п'ятдесят на п'ятдесят. Половина – це держзамовлення, інша ж частина майбутніх студентів платитиме за рік навчання 3 тисячі гривень. Планується відкрити також заочне відділення інституту.

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БУДЬМО в КОНТАКТІ!

У 60–ру річницю створення Дивізії «Галичина»

М. Кучер

60 років тому назад, 28–го квітня 1943 року, в княжому городі Львові, проф. Володимир Кубійович, тодішний голова Українського Центрального Комітету, повідомив населення Західної України про створення новітної української військової формації стрілецької дивізії «Галичина».

В той день проф. В. Кубійович звернувся із закликом до учасників Визвольних змагань і української молоді.

«Старшини й вояки УГА!

Перед 22 роками Ви з глибоким жалем прощалися із зброєю тоді, коли вже встояти не було сили. Кров Ваших товаришів зброї, що загинули на Полі Слави, кличе Вас завершити почате діло, виконати велику обітницю, складену 1918 р. Ви мусите раз на завжди знищити більшевицьку потвору, що ненаситно впивається кров'ю нашого народу та нечувано дикими засобами змагає до його повної руїни. Ви мусите помститися за неповинну кров мільйонів наших братів закатованих у казаматах НКВД, на Соловках, на Сибірі, в Казахстані, за мільйони братів заголоджуваних на наших родючих насильно більшевиками сколективізованих ланах. Тепер або ніколи!

Українська молоде!

З особливою увагою звертаюся до Тебе та закликаю Тебе вступити до СС–Стрілецької Дивізії «Галичина».

Ти народилася в роках світанку великої доби, тоді коли багром крови і золотом слави почала писатися найновіша історія України;

Коли батьки Твої і старші брати Твої перші та єдині в Европі підняли збройну боротьбу з найстрашнішим ворогом України й ворогом всього людства;

Коли брати Твої, такі гарячі, як і Ти, перші записали в рідну історію безприкладний у світовій історії геройський чин під Крутами;

Коли брати Твої вкривалися славою першого Зимового походу на більшевицьку потвору;

Коли перші вони – в «замиреній» ніби вже Европі – пішли на більшевицького окупанта у другому Зимовому поході, вписуючи в рідну історію геройський чин Базару…

Тоді народилась Ти, тоді виростала Ти, як по всій Українській землі раз–у–раз зривалися повстання проти більшевицького окупанта, що страшною руїною, голодом, засланнями, тортурами, вбивствами намагався стерти наш народ із обличчя землі. Тоді і Ти Українська молоде, склала свої величезні святі жертви на вівтарі своєї Батьківщини. Ти горіла святим вогнем любови до Неї, для Неї Ти гартувала свого духа, готовилася на слушний час великої збройної розправи.Ти з тугою в серці, Ти з жаром у душі чекала тієї хвилини.

І ось вона – хвилина ця – надійшла.

Дорога Молоде, я вірю, що Твій патріотизм, Твоя жертвенність, Твоя готовість до збройного чину – це не голі слвоа, що це – глибоке, щире переконання та почування. Я вірю, що ти глибоко пережила і зрозуміла болючий досвід від визвольних змагань, що Ти добула з нього ясне почуття політичного реалізму, глибоке зрозуміння національного інтересу, тверду готовість до найбільших жертв для нього. Я вірю в Тебе, Дорога Молоде – і вірю, що Ти не програєш теперішнього Великого моменту, що ділом докажеш перед цілим світом, хто Ти, чого Ти варта, до чого Ти здібна».

На цей заклик воякам Визвольних змагань і українській молоді зголосилося понад 80,000 добровольців. Це був початок відродження регулярної збройної української військової одиниці в складі німецьких збройних сил під час Другої вітової війни. І так Дивізія «Галичина» стала продовженням визвольної боротьби українського народу за свою державність, за свою самостійність.

Ті, які зголосилися добровольцями, потвердили готовість жертвувати все, навіть своє життя за свободу і волю нашої батьківщини України. Не з нашої вини намічена мета не була нами осягнута. Ми сповнили наш обов'язок і наша совість чиста в обличчі історії. Ми перейшли кровавi бої, але так само, як і нашим попередникам з перших Визвольних змагань – встоятись не було сили.

Ми вояки дивізії «Галичина», яка опісля стала 1–ою Українською Дивізією Української Національної Армії, розкинені по цілому світі, згуртувалися в нашій братській організації і з цієї бази вели далішу боротьбу, обов'язок який ми взяли на себе добровільно і з якого нас ніхто не звільнив. І за це теперішній уряд України не хоче визнати нас борцями за волю України.

Немає в світі другої країни,
Подібної Тобі,
Щоб цуралась синів своїх,
Які сьогодні у гробах, лісах, полях…
Вони все ждуть,
Чи довго їм ще треба ждати
Щоб пригорнула Їх до серця Ти
Як рідна мати?

Володимир Мазяр

Червоні Маки

Під Бродами зацвіли маки,
Покрили всі поля.
Там, де Підлиська є гора,
Де Олесько село, Пеняки,
Їх тьменна тьма, їх тисячі там, де стрільці,
Сини землі святої, у бій ішли,
В нерівний бій ішли і в славі полягли
За рідний край, за нарід свій.

Вони, ті юнаки, ще майже діти,
Зброю узяли.
Для них щойно почалося життя,
Недавні школярі… Лишили все, пішли,
Присягу вірно понесли у бій
За Україну, нарід свій.
Ішли з піснею на устах,
Як колись батьки, діди, Стрільці Січові,
Щоб там у боротьбі калину піднести,
Червону калину, Україні волю принести.

В той грізний час, в ту днину,
Вони у бою полягли.
А з кожної краплини пролятої крови
Зродилась на полях червона квітка – мак.
І вже, коли лягли спочити,
По їхніх тілах, по кістках,
Пройшов монгол, той дикий кат.
Топтав, палив він землю цю святу,
Та маків не бере вогонь, о ні!
Вони цвітуть і цвітом тим оповідатимуть
Повічні віки про левиків,
Синів героїв, про хлопців лісових,
Про їх останній бій за Україну, нарід свій.

Вулиця Bloor в Торонто

(Народний Оглядач)—Канада - країна імігрантів, які туди прибували з усього світу. Від понад ста років серед них є також українці.

До країни кленового листка, в різний час, прибували політичні та економічні емігранти. Торонто - друге найбільше українське пристановище в Канаді. А місцеві церкви - це таке місце, де зустрічаються прибульці з усіх еміграційних хвиль.

Греко-католицькі і православні церкви і сьогодні правлять за центри культурного, суспільного й освітнього життя.

Вулицю Bloor в Торонто, з приводу численних українських фінансових установ, називають "українським Wall Street". Тут видніють вивіски українських кредитних кас, книгарень і ресторанів. Місцеві українські бізнесмени засновують тут свої фірми і відкривають контори.

Раз у рік вулиця Bloor стає українським центром культури. Під час "Українського фестивалю на Bloor" презентуються організації та наукові установи. На фестивальній сцені виступають аматорські музичні й танцювальні ансамблі. Вони показують танці з різних регіонів України.

Прибувають також відомі канадські артисти українського походження.

Між іншим, можна послухати - популярних також у Польщі - виконавців з України. Торік гостем фестивалю була "Піккардійська терція" зі Львова. "Фестиваль на Bloor" - це свято всіх груп українських емігрантів, а також спосіб показати свою культуру канадцям іншої національності.

Ukraine to send peacekeepers to Iraq

(Eastern Economist)—The Security and Defense Council unanimously voted for sending Ukrainian peacekeeping troops to participate in stabilization activities in the Polish sector in Iraq, said SDC Secretary Yevhen Marchuk after the meeting of the Council, May 26.

He said a preliminary agreement was reached to send a brigade of 1,600-1,700 soldiers, all of them volunteers.

He stressed that the decision to send troops is subject to approval by the Verkhovna Rada on June 5.

The transfer of the troops to Iraq will take place no later than mid-August.

The SDC Secretary also said that Ukrainian troops will be stationed in the mid-southern region of the country and will perform mainly the following duties: maintaining Iraq's territorial integrity; protecting local authorities; supporting the creation of local governing bodies; protection of vital objects, industrial sites, oil production sites, and water supply facilities and if necessary preventing fights between conflicting parties.

Ukraine will finance this mission from its state budget, said Marchuk, but at least half of the expenses will be compensated by the US and Great Britain.

In any case, he said, these expenses will be more than offset by potential gains from the profits of Ukrainian companies participating in the rebuilding of Iraq and from the recovery of US$300-350 million in trade with Iraq.

Marchuk said that the decision was taken in response to an official invitation to participate in stabilization forces in Iraq sent by the Polish government.

He said that the SDC has pro and con arguments to present before the Rada and expressed the hope that the Rada will support this decision.

The SDC Secretary stressed that it would foster "the transparency and sincerity of Ukraine's relations with NATO."

Opposition calls for tragedy to be put behind

(Interfax-Ukraine)—In the run up to the 60th anniversary of what is known as the Volyn tragedy in which tens of thousands of Poles and Ukrainians were killed in ethnic violence in 1943-44, numerous opposition members of the Ukrainian parliament issued an open letter calling on Poles and Ukrainians to forgive each other.

Hryhory Omelchenko, Volodymyr Moisyk and Stepan Khmara are among the 33 people who have signed the letter published by the Holos Ukrayiny newspaper on May 16.

They call on Poland to forego the demand that Ukraine apologize unilaterally. "Such 'apologies' will not promote conciliation or mutual understanding. Poland must revise its anti-Ukrainian prejudices if mutual understanding is to be reached," the letter says.

"We suspect that certain anti-Polish and anti-Ukrainian groups seize this opportunity and cash in on national sentiments of Poles in an effort to keep the two nations apart and draw them into a maelstrom of irreconcilable mutual offenses and charges," it says.

Ukrainian historians argue that Poles killed at least 20,000 Ukrainians in the course of fighting in Volyn, what is now western Ukraine and eastern Poland, in 1943 - 44 while Poles argue that Ukrainian nationalist units massacred 80,000 to 100,000 Poles.

In the run to the anniversary of the tragic events Poland wants Ukraine to allow masses Poles to visit their sites while numerous radical organizations in Ukraine call on political figures to stay away from events marking the anniversary.

Special Issue on the Khmelnytsky Uprising and the Jewish Massacres

(CIUS)—A special issue of the University of Haifa-based journal *Jewish History* (vol. 17, no. 2 [2003]), entitled "*Gezeirot Ta"h* Jews, Cossacks, Poles and Peasants in 1648 Ukraine" has just been published. The seven articles in the volume were developed from the international conference on this topic held at Bar-Ilan University in 1998. Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) research associates assisted in the planning of the conference, including inviting scholars from Ukraine. The papers selected for the special issue represent a major breakthrough in discussion and research on this topic. The editors of the volume, Kenneth Stow and Adam Teller of University of Haifa draw attention to the search for objectivity in the papers and to the importance of examining the events in comparative ways, taking into account the broader context and the varying Jewish, Ukrainian, and Polish perspectives. The special issue contains new maps of Jewish settlements in Ukraine by Shaul Stampfer of Hebrew University. It should be noted that Dr. Stampfer takes what he calls "the excellent *Map and Gazetteer of Ukraine* " from the *Encyclopedia of Ukraine* as the source for the transliteration of Ukrainian place-names.

The first article in the collection is an account of the events of the Khmelnytsky Uprising and an examination of its typology and etiology by Frank Sysyn of CIUS, the University of Alberta. Dr. Sysyn also places the Jewish massacres in the context of the uprising. In his article, Dr. Zenon Kohut of CIUS examines the image of Jews in Ukrainian history writing and folklore down to the beginning of the 19th century. He posits new theories as to why the Jewish theme became so important in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The contributions by specialists in Ukrainian studies also include the noted Kyiv scholar Dr. Natalia Yakovenko's discussion of motifs such as "war of mercenaries" and topoi such as "the purification of the land" and the "syndrome of the overturned world" as shaping all accounts of the events of the time.

Dr. Gershon Bacon of Bar-Ilan University examines the depiction of the events in general histories of the Jews. He shows how fully one work, the 17th-century account *Abyss of Despair* by Nathan Hannover, shaped later writings. He sees this influence as having only been questioned in the most recent works. In his contribution, Dr. Stampfer tackles the difficult question of the Jewish population in Ukraine and the number of victims. His innovative methods even include estimating the number of worshippers that could be accommodated in synagogues. His findings of about 18,000 to 20,000 victims are far smaller than those used in much of the scholarly literature. Dr. Judith Kalik of Hebrew University deals with the various Christian churches' complex relations with the Jews. She outlines the economic relations between Jewish leaseholders and the various churches and clergy that resulted in both conflict and cooperation. Dr. Moshe Rosman of Bar-Ilan University demonstrates the rapid revival of the Dubno Jewish community after 1648. His in-depth study of court cases that arose among the towns' inhabitants shows how quickly old patterns were restored in territories reconquered by the Poles and undermines the view that 1648 was a turning point in Jewish economic activities.

In general the volume breaks new ground and points to many new lines of research. It shows the fruitfulness of the co-operation between scholars in Ukrainian and Jewish studies that dates back to the CIUS-sponsored conference in 1983, published as Howard Aster and Peter J. Potichnyj, *Ukrainian-Jewish Relations in Historical Perspective* (CIUS Press, 1988), with contributions on this topic by Drs. Shmuel Ettinger, Jaroslaw Pelenski and Frank Sysyn.

The topic has also been treated recently by CIUS research associate Serhii Plokhy in his monograph, *Cossacks and Religion in Early Modern Ukraine* (Oxford University Press, 2001), in which he publishes his presentation from the conference. In addition, the publication of volume 8 of Mykhailo Hrushevsky's *History of Ukraine-Rus' : The Cossack Age, 1626-1650*, trans. Marta Daria Olynyk, ed. Frank E. Sysyn with the assistance of Myroslav Yurkevich (CIUS Press, 2002) has made the writings on this topic of the major Ukrainian historian available, along with commentaries on his treatment of the Jewish question and bibliographic information on the subsequent literature. All this new literature portends new thinking that should eventually have an impact on general and popular writings on this subject.

Review of Director of Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies University of Alberta

The current five-year appointment of Dr Zenon Kohut, Director of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, concludes on 30 June 2004. Dr Kohut has indicated he wishes to be considered for another five-year term (2004-2009).

Under the authority of Section 103.4.4 of the University's General Faculties Council Policy Manual, Associate Vice-President (Research) Paul Sorenson has convened a review committee. One part of the review process is to invite feedback from the wider community concerning the performance of Dr Kohut. Anyone wishing to comment on Dr Kohut's performance as Director of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies is invited to contact any of the review committee members as follows:

Edmund Aunger	edmund.aunger@ualberta.ca; phone 465 8759
Bruce Dancik	bruce.dancik@ualberta.ca; phone 987 2056
John-Paul Himka	jhimka@ualberta.ca; phone 492 0852
Khrystia Kohut	kkohut@ualberta.ca; phone 492 6852
Peter Savaryn	7507 Rowland Road, Edmonton T6A 3W4; phone 469 1860
Paul Sorenson	paul.sorenson@ualberta.ca; phone 492 5335
Frank Sysyn	fsysyn@gpu.srv.ualberta.ca; phone 492 2674

Comments should be received by Wednesday 4 June. Please contact Katharine Moore (492 0868, katharine.moore@ualberta.ca) if further information is required.

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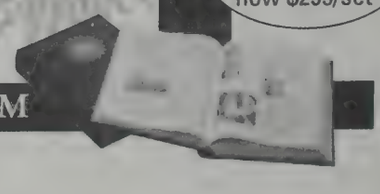

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Губернатори російських і українських регіонів створили "Співдружність регіонів"

(Українські Новини)—Керівники регіональних органів виконавчої влади України і Росії, що брали участь в українсько-російському форумі глав регіонів двох країн в Одесі, підписали договір 18–го травня про створення міжрегіональної організації "Співдружність регіонів".

Про це після церемонії підписання договору повідомив журналістам голова Державної адміністрації Одеської області Сергій Гриневецький. Договір підписали голова Ради міністрів Криму Сергій Куніцин, голови 15 обласних державних адміністрацій України, Київської і Севастопольської міських адміністрацій та губернатори 10 регіонів Росії.

За словами Гриневецького, найближчим часом до договору приєднаються й інші області України та Росії.

За його словами, головне завдання "Співдружності регіонів" -- це налагодження прямих зв'язків між областями України і Росії, уніфікація законодавства і митних процедур, створення Єдиного економічного простору.

Співголовами організації обрані від України - Гриневецький, від Росії - губернатор Орловської області Єгор Строєв.

Строєв повідомив журналістам, що створення організації не має на меті політичних цілей.

"Це не політичне об'єднання, у нас тільки економічні цілі", - сказав Строєв.

Гриневецький повідомив, що фінансування діяльності нової організації в найближчі місяці буде здійснюватися за рахунок коштів Одеської облдержадміністрації, а у вересні цього року під час українсько-російського бізнес-форуму будуть визначені додаткові джерела фінансування "Співдружності регіонів".

Як повідомляло агентство, наприкінці лютого Президенти України Леонід Кучма, Росії Володимир Путін, Білорусі Олександр Лукашенко і Казахстану Нурсултан Назарбаєв заявили про намір створити Єдиний економічний простір до вересня 2003 року.

Україна наполягає на першочерговості створення зони вільної торгівлі без вилучень і обмежень при формуванні з Росією, Білоруссю і Казахстаном ЄЕП.

Російський прем'єр Михайло Касьянов на початку березня заявив, що Росія не хоче обмежувати взаємну інтеграцію з Україною створенням зони вільної торгівлі.

За його словами, Росія бачить свою інтеграцію з Україною у формі ЄЕП, що передбачає справляння єдиних податків, встановлення єдиних митних кордонів, єдиних транспортних тарифів, єдину енерго–транспортну систему, і як останній штрих інтеграції - єдину валюту.

При в'їзді до США в українців зніматимуть відбитки пальців

(Корреспондент.net)—З 1 січня наступного року більшість іноземців, що прибуватимуть до Сполучених Штатів, у тому числі громадяни України, залишатимуть при в'їзді відбитки своїх пальців. Про це повідомив заступник міністра національної безпеки США Аса Хатчинсон. Крім відбитків пальців, влада скануватиме паспортні дані іноземця (насамперед фотографію) і зареєструє адреси, де його можна розшукати в Америці. Отриману інформацію відразу введуть до бази даних, де разом з іншими є повідомлення про підозрюваних у злочинах і тероризмі. Заступник міністра національної безпеки США зазначив, що тривалість нової реєстрації при в'їзді лише на кілька секунд перевищить нинішню.

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Субсидії АТЗУК в 2003 році

П. Саварин

"Decima Research Inc.", канадська компанія обслідування, поінформувала в жовтні 2002 р., що найбільш жертвенними на різні харитативні цілі є громадяни Альберти. Коли в середньому на кожного канадця припадає $472 пожертв річно, то на кожного альбертця припало $779, згідно зі звітом Податкового міністерства Канади за 2001 рік. Після альбертців виявилися онтарійці - $542, далі саскечеванці і манітобці - $532, тоді бр. колюмбійці - $494, а тоді квебекці - $240. Понад половина, бо 51% альбертців зголосило того року пожертви, за які податкове міністерво дало їм кредит.

2001 р. Альбертське товариство збереження української культури (АТЗУК) роздало понад $50,000. Цього, тобто 2003 р., починаючи від грудня 2002 р., АТЗУК розділює на різні харитативні, наукові, суспільні і культурні цілі понад $85,000. Деякі вже одержали субсидію, а інші одержать її в найближчому часі: через Українську суспільну службу Канади (УССК) потерпілим від летунської катастрофи на Львівщині – $5,000; Товариству приятелів українського села (ТПУС) – $4,600 (в тій сумі $3,600 на пам'ятник інтернованим українцям під час 1–ої Св. війни на Селі спадщини української культури (ССУК); через Фундацію Канада–Україна для КУК Гамільтону на фільм про Норильське повстання – $3,000; хорові парафії св. Юрія на CD - $2,000 і на Рідну школу тої ж парафії – $2,000; Фундації Міленніюм України – $4,000; через факультет медицини і дентистики при Альбертському Університеті (АУ), на проєкт д–ра Ґаука «Освіта» – $1,000; Українській фундації сприяння коледжам –$5,000; через Фундацію Канада–Україна на НаУКМА – $2,000; фундації світового конґресу українців – $2,000; Централі КУК у Вінніпезі – $5,000; Українській Канадській фундації ім. Т. Шевченка (УКФШ) – $2,000; Пластовій станиці Едмонтону – $3,000; Музею ЛУКЖК при Катедрі св. Йосафата – $2,500; Інститутові св. Івана – $2,000; Українському канадському архіву музею Альберти – $2,500; на камп'ютери для шкіл України (д–р В. Іваницький) – $1,000; Українській католицькій освітній фундації – $5,000; хорові «Дніпро» – $1,000; на українську мову АУ (проф. О. Ільницький) – $8,000; КІУС на АУ – $5,000; КФУС – $5,000; Приятелям Центру українського фольклору на АУ – $2,000; Курсам українознавства ім. І. Франка – $3,000; через Катедру св. Йосафата на УГК Катедру в Києві – $1,000; на пресовий фонд газетам – $1,000; через Канадську фундацію дітей Чорнобиля «Приятелям дітей» – $7,000; через Сестер Служебниць ПДМ на сиріт у Львові – $500; Ківоніс – $200.

Реєстрація харитативних організацій в Канаді почалася 1967 р. Того року було їх зареєстровано 35,000. На 11 січня 2003 р. вже є їх зареєстрованих 79,276: в Онтаріо - 27,795; Квебеку - 15,085; Бр. Колюмбії - 10,677; Альберті - 8,391; Саскечевані - 4,582; Манітобі - 4,395; Новій Скошії - 3,716; Н'ю Брансвік - 2,653; Н'ю Фаундленд - 1,155; Прінс Едвард Айленд - 557; Західно–Північній Території - 128; Території Юкону - 117; НЮ - 24. В 2002 р. уряд одержав 3,017 аплікацій, 2,281 зареєстрував, 540 переєсрував, 56 відкинув, а 2,054 організаціям написав, щоб подали більше інформацій. 2002 р., 800 організацій припинило свою харитативну діяльність, а 1,599 тимчасово втратило своє реєстраційне число, бо не подало свого річного звіту на час. 5 харитативних організацій втратило своє число, бо не працювало згідно з принципами Харитативного Акту, а урядова Інспекція, базуючись на звітах, скаргах публіки або «прямо для контролі» (spot auditing), перевірила 475 організацій. На початках уряд давав харитативне число в основі лише релігійним і освітним організаціям, а тепре дає багатьом іншим родам, нпр. мистецьким, спортовим, і т.д., та й фонди вони збирають в різний спосіб. За те тяжче є дістати харитативне число і легше його згубити, бо уряд вимагає повної «відкритости» і «звітування». Але всякі формальності не відстрашують мільйонів тзв. «добровольців» для яких навіть організуються всякі курси і семінарі нпр. "Vitalize". Це в основі люди старші, ідейні, які бачать колосальні потреби ближніх або хотять чинити добро.

АТЗУК було зареєстроване в січні 1980 р. За 22 роки свойого існування воно зібрало і роздало на різні цілі понад $1,800,000. Членами його в основі є невеличка група членів Пласту і ЗК НТШ, як теж всі жертводавці і добровольці при касіно (автоматично). Найбільше праці мають звичайно члени Управи (голова Петро Саварин, секретар Оля Саварин і скарбник, тепер Дарія Васараб–Роланд), бо їм треба не лише кореспондувати з різними організаціями, організувати касіно (найбільше джерело приходів), збирати датки на похоронах, керувати зборами дирекції, але й тримати зв'язок з різними урядовими інстанціями, нпр. ц.р. АТЗУК було "spot audited" Revenue Canada і відповіло на 24 питання Alberta Liquor and Gaming Commission, що дає дозвіл на касіно, але яке вповні апробувало всі повище вираховані датки АТЗУК. Минулого року в семінарі "Vitalize", який відбувався в Калґарі, брали участь голова і секретар, а ц.р. в семінарі, який відбудеться вже в Едмонтоні, візьмуть участь ще й скарбник, Дарія Васараб–Роланд і п. Богдан Горіх. До Дирекції (14 осіб), крім вгорі згаданих членів управи, входять довгі роки наступні: Мирон Базюк, Мирон Стефанів, Люба Бойко–Бел, Віра Кунда, Софія Скрипник, Михайло Саварин, Іван Стадник, Юрій Котович, Бенедикт Блавацький, Олег Ільницький і Дмитро Тодосійчук. Членам управи і дирекції, як і всім членам–жертводавцям і членам–добровольцям при касіно, винагородою за їхні труди є щирі подяки, які подеколи приходять від організацій, що одержують субсидії АТЗУК, а зокрема почуття, яке приходить після всякого доброго діла і сповненого обов'язку.

Канада процвітає не лише на податках, але й до великої міри на філянтропії. «Хто дає, тому Бог дає» з одної сторони, а «Громада по нитці – бідному сорочка» з другої, як кажуть старі українські пословиці, творять те, що ми й називаємо – життя, будують країну.

Джордж Сорос проти уряду США

Марія Щур, *Радіо Свобода*

Якщо одна людина може «завалити» валюту великої країни, то вона може і перешкодити урядам у можливих зловживаннях. Із цього, очевидно, виходить відомий фінансист та філантроп Джордж Сорос, який нині збирається грати на пониження курсу долара, і створює організацію, що слідкуватиме за тим, щоб США та Велика Британія не зловживали іракською нафтою.

Джордж Сорос знову робить те, що вміє найкраще: він збирається покарати провідну світову валюту та використати свої мільярди для того, щоб не давати урядовцям спати спокійно, пише кореспондент агентства "Рейтер", повідомляючи про нові плани 73- літнього мільярдера та філантропа. Цього тижня Сорос, який спекулюючи британським фунтом у 1992 році призвів до різкого падіння його курсу, тепер збирається повторити цю стратегію з американським доларом. Тоді Сорос заробив мільярд доларів на ставках на пониження курсу фунта і спричинився до 20% падіння вартості британської валюти.

Сорос уже не має тієї влади над фінансовими ринками, яку мав на початку 1990, коли його називали «людиною, що призвела до банкрутства Банку Англії». Але американський долар є на рекордно низькому рівні, і навіть очікування падіння курсу можуть призвести до його дійсного падіння, говорять експерти. До того ж, його фінансовий фонд контролює чималу суму – 11 з половиною мільярдів доларів. І з його словом рахуються, бо коли він заявив, що американське міністерство фінансів хоче, щоб долар упав, курс найуживанішої світової валюти похитнувся. «Я продаю долари, - сказав Сорос у телеінтерв'ю, - тому що я слухаю, що говорить мені міністр фінансів». Небажання уряду підтримати долар Сорос вважає помилкою, але він не проти нею скористатися.

Джордж Сорос, великий прихильник відкритого суспільства, добре відомий на пострадянських теренах своєю харитативною діяльністю, яка тепер має поширитись і на Ірак. У вівторок він заявив, що він збирається створити організацію, яка б слідкувала за тим, щоб американці та британці не скористалися нелегально з величезних нафтових родовищ цієї країни. Сорос звернув увагу на повідомлення у пресі про те, що купка американських компаній отримала контракти в Іраку без проведення конкурсу. На його думку, люди в усьому світі побоюються, що американці та британці можуть зловживати своєю владою в Іраку.

Тому, говорить Сорос, «це було б в інтересах США розвіяти ці побоювання, і ми хочемо допомогти».На його думку, Ірак не повинен повертати борги, зроблені Саддамом Гуссейном, щоб у майбутньому ніхто не спокушався і не надавав позики диктаторам, повідомляє агентство "Рейтер".

Rada declares Famine an act of genocide

(RFE/RL/Eastern Economist)—The Verkhovna Rada adopted a resolution on May 15 declaring that the catastrophic famine in Ukraine in 1932-33, which claimed lives of millions of Ukrainians, was "an act of genocide" and "a terrorist act of the political system of Stalinism" against the Ukrainian people, UNIAN reported.

The resolution was supported by 226 lawmakers (the minimum required for its adoption) of the 410 attending the session.

The resolution followed a hearing on the famine held by the parliament the previous day.

Lawmakers of the Communist Party left the session hall before the hearing took place on May 14.

Communist MP Oleksandr Holub said his party did not accept the verdict that those events constituted a famine, although they have sympathy to those who died in 1932-1933.

During the hearings Deputy Prime Minister for Humanitarian Issues Dmytro Tabachnyk said that since the USSR does not exist any more, the Rada may request the UN to recognize the Great Famine of 1932-1933 as genocide against the Ukrainian nation.

He said that the Cabinet will allow State Archives to present all the materials and evidence collected over last 13 years to any international body commissioned by the UN to investigate the issue of famine.

Tabachnyk said: "This information proves that famine in Ukraine was not only a crime against humanity but also an act of genocide."

He said he was sure that if Ukraine were to substantiate before the UN the grounds to recognize the famine as genocide, Ukraine would have a historical chance of proving the fact of genocide to the international community.

"We have to deliver a message to the world that the orchestrated famine during Soviet times was our holocaust. It was conscious genocide of the Ukrainian nation."

Harasymiw awarded Prime Minister's Teaching Excellence Certificate

(UkrNews)—St. Matthew's School Ukrainian Bilingual Program Grade 5-6 teacher Natalia Harasymiw has been has been honoured with the Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence, Certificate of Achievement.

"Now in its tenth year, this awards program honours the achievements of exceptionally gifted educators, like yourself, who have instilled in their students a love of learning and who inspire them to make the most out of life," wrote Prime Minister Jean Chretien in a letter to Harasymiw.

"For you, teaching is more than a profession: it is a passion that you pass on to young Canadians each and every day. Through your commitment and skills as an educator, you have empowered students to excel and helped them build a successful future. It is an honour to be associated with this program and with such an outstanding group of teachers."

Harasymiw was nominated for the award by the parents' committee of her students.

"Pani Harasymiw is very dynamic in the class, always interacting, coaching, and challenging her students and encouraging them to formulate their own opinions. She uses a variety of materials, activities, and instructional methodologies to enhance student interest for effective learning," they wrote in their nomination paper.

"Recognizing that children learn by association, Pani integrates true stories and personal experiences to paint a visual picture to which students can relate. When learning about government, who better to invite to the classroom than Edmonton's Mayor Bill Smith so that students can discuss municipal issues on their level; or what better way to share the School's Easter celebration with the Province than with the participation of Alberta's Lieutenant Governor Lois Hole. Pani Harasymiw makes it happen for her class and the whole school community."

Natalia Harasymiw

Assumption Seniors honour centenarian member

By Mary Bereziuk

May 9 Assumption Senior members attended a Holy Liturgy celebrated by Rev Bill Hupalo with special intention prayers for Eva Kotyk and the singing of Mnohaya Lita.

After the Liturgy Ukrainian Assumption Seniors hosted a 100-year birthday celebration in the lower church auditorium. The seniors provided a corsage, which Sister Laura pinned on the guest of honour, who wore a white slack suit with a blouse embroidered in Ukrainian design. Our centenarian has deep faith and love of her Ukrainian church and heritage, has good posture, walks without any assistance, has a terrific memory and was delighted to be so remembered. To complete the celebration photos were taken to be given as a gift.

PHOTO — MARY BEREZIUK

Seated left to right: Anna Denis (90), Sister Laura Prokop, Eva Kotyk (100), Rev. Bill Hupalo, Maria Welk (95). 2nd row: Anna Kolba, May Puhach, Vera Parker, Steve Kotyk, Bert Kotyk, Julia Swiatylo, Mykola Demchyshyn, Justina Pawluk, John Pawluk, 3rd row: Annie Charanduk, Helen Popil, Mary Danylchuk, Helen Hladyshevsky, Joe Iwaszkiw, Peter Glowiuk, John Mohyla, Wsewolod Shpytkovsky.

Steve Sumka Sr. (right) with Lieutenant Governor Lois Hole (centre) and Edmonton Gold Bar MLA Hugh MacDonald (right)

Steve Sumka Sr. awarded Queen's Jubilee Medal

(UkrNews)—Ukrainian community activist Steve Sumka Sr. was awarded the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal on April 17.

Sumka was honoured for years of community work especially in resettling immigrants. Working in City Hall, he employed over 20 newcomers from Poland and Ukraine.

He has also helped financially done volunteer work for many organizations like the Ukrainian Canadian Social Services, the League of Ukrainian Canadians and was president of a senior citizen association.

The Commemorative Medal was created to mark the 50th anniversary of the accession of Queen Elizabeth II to the Throne on February 6, 1952.

It is awarded to those persons who, have made a significant contribution to Canada, to their community or to their fellow Canadians.

This Commemorative Medal is part of the Jubilee year celebrations organized by the Department of Canadian Heritage.

Court bans opposition in race

(Eastern Economist)—The single candidate from the opposition for the Mayor of Sumy, Serhiy Klochko, was banned from running for the post by a decision of the local court that canceled his registration, said the Secretary of the Committee of Voters, Oleksandr Chernenko, May 18.

The formal basis for the decision made at 22.00 on May 15 alleged Klochko's personal data in the registration form was false.

Committee of Voters' Chair Chernenko said the Committee saw political motives in the decision.

He said, "This fact unfortunately continues the sad tradition of deciding the results of elections by administrative means. Such actions by local authorities do not correspond to the statements of the leader of the country about fair and democratic elections."

Newsbriefs

Kuchma eliminates political slots

(RFE/RL)—President Leonid Kuchma has issued a decree canceling a previous order on the introduction of the post of state secretary, as well as first deputies and deputies for the Council of Ministers and individual ministries, Interfax reported on May 27. Kuchma introduced those posts two years ago in a move the opposition said was aimed at tightening the presidential administration's grip on the cabinet. Under the new decree, state secretaries and their deputies are to be replaced by first deputy ministers and deputy ministers.

Vinnytsia bomber strikes again

(Eastern Economist)—A passenger mini bus exploded in Vinnytsia injuring 14 passengers, May 20. This is the third explosion on the same route, #35, since the beginning of the year. Two days after the second explosion the local newspaper Tumba and channel 33 TV received warnings from a terrorist claiming to require US$300,000 to stop the explosions. Not long before the last explosion another local newspaper and Channel 33 received another letter with a request to pay money.

Ukrainian, Chinese students brawl

(Eastern Economist)—The Interior Ministry launched a criminal investigation into the facts of the mass fight between Chinese and Ukrainian students on the campus of Kyiv Polytechnic Institute on May 19, causing injuries that required hospitalization, informed the Press Service of the Ministry. According to the Press Service statement, 250 Ukrainian students took part in the fight and only the effort of law enforcement officers prevented larger casualties. The Chinese Embassy in Ukraine issued a statement expressing their hope that all measures will be taken to protect Chinese nationals.

Borzov joins Rada

(RFE/RL)—Valeriy Borzov was sworn in as a Verkhovna Rada deputy on May 20, Interfax and UNIAN reported.

Borzov, who ran in the 2002 parliamentary election in the nationwide, multiseat constituency on the Social-Democratic Party-united ticket, replaces lawmaker Mykola Pesotskyy, who was appointed to head the State Reserves Committee and gave up his deputy's mandate.

Borzov, now chairman of the Ukrainian Track and Field Federation, won two gold medals at the Olympic Games in Munich in 1972, running the 100-meter and 200-meter dashes for the Soviet Union.

He also served as sports minister for Ukraine.

The Verkhovna Rada currently has 449 deputies.

The Central Election Commission scheduled a by-election for 8 June in a constituency in Chernihiv Oblast after lawmaker Valentyn Melnychuk was appointed governor of Chernihiv Oblast and surrendered his parliamentary seat.

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Dynamo on course for double

Sports

(UEFA)—FC Dynamo Kyiv won the Ukrainian Cup for the fifth time in their history after defeating great rivals FC Shakhtar Donetsk 2-1 in a dramatic match on May 25.

Dynamo had gained the psychological edge on May 21 by beating Shakhtar 2-1 in the league, but their championship contest took a back seat in front of 70,000 spectators at Kyiv's Olympiyskiy stadium.

With both teams bidding to be the first to record five Cup triumphs, Shahktar, who beat Dynamo 3-2 last year to win the trophy for the second year running, took the lead on 18 minutes when the scorer of last season's winning goal, Andriy Vorobey, shot in from outside the box.

After the goal, Dynamo coach Olexiy Mikhaylichenko was forced to replace defender Goran Sablic with Aleksandr Khatskevich. That substitution proved to be key as the Belarussian equalized on 58 minutes with a magnificent free-kick from 25 meters.

Then, with extra time looming for the third final running, Maxim Shatskikh and Diogo Rincón broke through the Shakhtar defence — and the Brazilian, on as a substitute, shot in to bring the cup back to the capital and secure the first trophy of Mikhaylichenko's reign, which began in last year's final when he took over after the death of Valeriy Lobanovskiy.

Following the game, Mikhaylichenko said: "It was a game of nerves and will. We lost a lot in the first half, but we were able to increase the tempo in the second. I am happy that my team has shown character." Dynamo will now target the domestic double, as they lead Shakhtar by a point in the league with four games left.

Dynamo lift Lobanovskiy trophy

(UEFA)—FC Dynamo Kyiv beat FC Shakhtar Donetsk 3-2 in extra time last night to become the first winners of the Lobanovskiy Memorial tournament, May 15.

The Ukrainian side advanced to the final by defeating the Russian champions FC Lokomotiv Moskva 2-0, while Shakhtar needed a penalty shoot-out to overcome PFC CSKA Moskva after a 0-0 draw. The semi-finals were played at the Lobanovskiy stadium in Kyiv, where a statue of Valeriy Lobanovskiy, the legendary Ukrainian coach who died on May 13 last year following a brain haemorrhage, was unveiled May 11 this year.

In the final at the Olympiyskiy, however, Dynamo took the early initiative when Jerko Leko scored after seven minutes. The goal sparked Shakhtar, the Ukrainian league leaders, into life and they equalized through Brazilian striker Brandao before taking the lead courtesy of a strike at the beginning of the second half from the 16-year-old Konstantyn Yaroshenko.

Another Brazilian, Dynamo's Diogo Rincon, equalized to send the game in extra time, where Maxim Shatskikh scored a 'golden goal' to seal Dynamo's victory.

The Football Federation of Ukraine and Dynamo have pledged to make the tournament an annual event. Ferencvárosi TC, the Hungarian side who lost 3-0 to Dynamo in the final of the 1974/75 UEFA Cup Winners' Cup, FC Bayern München, Club Atlético de Madrid and AC Milan — home to Ukrainian star Andriy Shevchenko — are all likely to compete next season.

Metalurh eye UEFA Cup

(UEFA)—FC Metalurh Donetsk remain ahead of FC Dnipro Dnipropetrovsk and FC Arsenal Kyiv in the race for a UEFA Cup place after a 2-0 win against FC Chornomorets Odesa, May 25.

With title contenders FC Dynamo Kyiv and FC Shakhtar Donetsk playing in the Ukrainian Cup final, the league focus switched to the contest to finish third, and Metalurh reinforced that position with four games to go, as Serhiy Tkachenko and Olexander Zotov scored a goal each to beat the side of their long-time former head coach Semen Altman.

Arsenal slipped two points behind Metalurh with a 1-1 draw at lowly FC Vorskla Poltava. Emanual Okoduwa's equalizer earned them a point but they slipped to fifth — on goals scored — behind Dnipro, who saw off FC Olexandriya 1-0.

Oleh Venglynskyi scored his 17th goal of the season and now shares the lead in the scoring chart with Olexiy Bielyk of Shakhtar and Dynamo's Maxim Shatskikh.

Elsewhere, FC Karpaty Lviv were held by FC Illychivets Mariupol, FC Kryvbas Kryviy Rih beat FC Tavriya Simferopol 2-1, while FC Volyn Lutsk unexpectedly fell 2-1 to FC Metalurh Zaporizhya.

However, Zaporizhya are still in the bottom two, after FC Obolon Kyiv beat bottom-placed FC Metalist Kharkiv 3-1 to stay a point ahead in the relegation race.

Metalist are now six points adrift of safety, as FC Zirka Kirovohrad ensured a return to the top flight after securing the first division title.

Meanwhile, the final set of fixtures has been brought forward five days from June 23 to Saturday June 18.

Double blow for Ukraine

(UEFA)—FC Dynamo Kyiv and Ukraine defender Yuri Dmitrulin will be out of action for several weeks after undergoing surgery for appendicitis.

The 28-year-old was taken to hospital on May 17. "Dmitrulin will take three to four weeks to recover, he is in a condition similar to [Real Madrid CF forward] Raúl González's," Dynamo doctor Volodymyr Malyuta said.

With two crucial UEFA EURO 2004™ qualifiers approaching Dmitrulin's injury is bad news for the Ukrainian national team. On June 7, Leonid Buryak's side take on Armenia in Lviv, and on June 11 they travel to Greece. Ukraine are second in Group 6, four points adrift of Spain, and ahead of Greece only on goal difference.

As well as the absence of Dmitrulin, who has been capped 36 times, Buryak will also have to do without FC Spartak Moskva defender Vladislav Vaschuk. The 28-year-old, who has played 49 games for his country, sustained a serious injury in a Russian league match against SC Rotor Volgograd during the weekend of May 17-18.

Ukraine therefore face something of a defensive crisis with Dmytro Parfionov, Victor Skrypnyk, Hennadiy Zubov, Serhiy Shyschenko and Olexandr Horshkov also missing through injury.

Fleeting treble sinks Ukraine

(UEFA)—A hat-trick from Julie Fleeting helped Scotland to an impressive 5-1 home win against Ukraine in UEFA European Womens' Championship Group 4 on May 18.

Having been beaten 5-0 by Germany in their opening qualifier, Scotland bounced back with a bang but had to come from behind after Elena Hodyreva opened the scoring on 20 minutes. Debutant Julia Ralph then equalised for the home side nine minutes before the interval, converting a telling cross from Fleeting.

As Ukraine tired during the second half, Scotland edged in front through Linda Brown's 66th-minute effort, before Fleeting took centre stage in the final 15 minutes. Her first strike came on 75 minutes and goals on 86 and 89 minutes capped a fine individual display and a superb team effort by Vera Pauw's side.

Scotland are now third in the Group 4 standings with three points from two matches, level with both Germany and Portugal who have both played a game less. The Czech Republic are yet to start their qualifying campaign, while Ukraine are rock bottom having earned no points after their opening two fixtures. Scotland face Portugal away in their next match on June 7 and Ukraine take on the Czechs at home the following day.

Kroes Energy announces first cash dividend from Ukraine production

Business

(UkrNews)—Calgary-based Kroes Energy Inc. has announced that it has received its first dividend of US$115,000 from its joint venture investment in Ukraine.

The joint venture, Kashtan Petroleum Ltd., is 45% owned by a subsidiary of Kroes and 55% owned by JSC Ukranafta, Ukraine's state oil company. Under the Canada-Ukraine tax treaty the dividend is subject to a 5% withholding tax in Ukraine and, therefore, is not taxable in Canada.

"This dividend is a major milestone for this project and is the first of what we anticipate will be a long-term and growing flow of dividends from our Kashtan joint venture," said Fred Callaway, President of Kroes.

"Having just completed the necessary US$787,500 financing and closed the acquisition of this project in December of 2002, it is exciting to see an early return on our investment. It also should alleviate the concerns of the investment community with regard to the repatriation of investment returns to Canada from Ukraine."

Ed Southern, Vice President of Kroes told Ukrainian News that Kroes is the first publicly traded Canadian oil and gas company to receive a dividend from its operations in Ukraine.

In addition to the dividend, Kashtan's 2002 profit and cash flow financed seven new workovers and a development well, along with the purchase of a second workover rig and new office space. For 2003 it is expected that Kashtan's growing cash flow will adequately finance its aggressive drilling and workover program.

Kashtan is redeveloping the Lelyaki oil field in central Ukraine. For the first quarter of 2003, average daily crude oil production has reached 529 barrels from 20 producing wells, a gain of 30% from the same period in 2002.

Kroes Energy is a junior oil and gas producer and explorer with a major oilfield redevelopment project in Ukraine, one of Eastern Europe's fastest growing economies. Kroes' 45% share of production from its Ukrainian joint venture has grown from an average 75 bpd in 2001 to 169 bpd in 2002. In the first quarter of 2003 its production rose to 238 bpd.

NBU raises inflation forecast to 8%

Eastern Economist)—The National Bank of Ukraine Board has raised its inflation forecast from 6-7% to 8%, reported NBU Board Chair Anatoliy Halchynskiy, May 24.

He said the Board had prepared two inflation scenarios and 8% was the optimistic one. At the same time, he declined to say what the pessimistic figures were.

He said the Board forecast inflation of 5.4% over January-June and deflation of 3.3% over July-August.

"Summer will bring deflation of about 2%," said Halchynskiy.

He further said decrease in prices were seasonal and based on the drop in prices for food products over June-August.

"In summer prices for potatoes, vegetables, meat, and eggs go down. This is a yearly cycle. Even in the most inflationary years there has been such a drop," he said.

The NBU Board forecasts that in January-September prices will rise by 4.2%. He said the NBU expected 1% inflation in October-November, and largest 1.7% in December, thus giving 8% for the whole year.

The Economy Ministry earlier reported that it is also considering the possibility of changing its forecast of consumer price growth from 6% to 8%. As reported earlier, inflation in January-April was 4.5%.

Halchynskiy said he believed inflation at the beginning of the year was caused by hikes in the prices of sugar and grain products.

The NBU estimates growth in prices for these products added 1.8% to inflation for these four months.

He further said he was sure there were no monetary causes for the inflation. He said this was why NBU was not going to raise its reserve requirement or discount rate to curb inflation, as had been planned before.

AES won't sell energy companies in Ukraine

By Oheh Borsuk, *Dow Jones Newswires*

AES Corporation, the U.S. based power giant, said May 15 it has decided not to sell its power distribution assets in Ukraine due to improved financial performance and growth prospects in the region.

AES whose share prices fell last year due to collapse in world energy prices, has already sold some of its assets in Australia, Africa, Middle East and in the U.S. and was also considering whether to sell assets in the former Soviet Union.

"The combination of the improved financial condition and a review of our strategic position, has brought us to the conclusion that we're going to remain in Ukraine," said John Huffaker, president of AES Silk Road, AES Corp's European subsidiary.

AES paid about US$70 million to the government in April 2001 to purchase to power distributors, KyivOblEnergo and RivneOblEnergo, outbidding Electricite de France and VSE of Slovakia.

AES was in talks with Vacunna International S.A., the Luxembourg- based company, over selling the Ukrainian assets, according to industry sources.

AES runs 13 power companies in Kazakhstan, Georgia and Ukraine, but has been also looking at investment opportunities in Poland and Hungary, Huffaker said.

The Ukrainian government had earlier this year accused AES of not delivering upon the promised investments and reduced by 14% power prices that it allows the company to charge customers.

Huffaker said the review of the prices was a fair process and the company plans to continue cooperation with the government on the country's energy market.

KyivOblEnergo reported after tax profits at 59.7 million hryvnias on sales of 636 million hryvnias in 2002.

KyivOblEnergo's outstanding debt is reported at 69.4 hryvnias.

RivneOblEnergo reported after-tax profits at 21.1 million hryvnias on sales of 325.3 million hryvnias in 2002.

RivneOblEnergo's outstanding debt is reported at 46.7 million hryvnias.

AES owns and operates over $33 billion of assets in 30 countries, including 160 power generation facilities that provide over 55 gigawatts of generating capacity.

AES also runs 20 electric distribution companies that deliver electricity to approximately 16 million end-use customers.

Rada endorses CIS 'joint economic space'

(RFE/RL)—The Verkhovna Rada voted 266-51 on May 22 to back the creation of a "joint economic space" to include Ukraine, Belarus, Russia, and Kazakhstan, Interfax reported.

The presidents of these four countries signed a statement on Feb. 23 declaring that their governments will prepare a draft agreement by September on the creation of such an economic bloc. Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka said the previous week that there is a "fundamental disagreement" over how those four countries view the formation of such an economic alliance.

The Ukrainian legislature also appealed to European parliaments, governments, and societies on May 22 to unite efforts to implement the socioeconomic and environmental goals mapped out by the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002, Interfax reported.

Rada approves flat tax

(RFE/RL)—The Verkhovna Rada on May 22 approved a 13 percent flat income tax for individuals as of Jan. 1, 2004, Ukrainian media reported. On Jan. 1, 2007, the rate will rise to 15 percent. The move was backed by 352 of the 440 legislators registered for the session. Income-tax rates in Ukraine are currently 10, 15, 20, 30, and 40 percent. Ukrainians earning more than US$320 per month are in the top tax bracket. The government hailed the introduction of the flat tax as a step toward developing a strong consumer market and reducing the country's shadow economy. "The adoption of the law is a breakthrough in implementing tax reform. The government and parliament covered a gap that has plagued our legislation for nine years," Finance Minister Mykola Azarov said, according to Interfax. The parliament also amended the country's 2003 budget on May 22, increasing projected revenues by 5.9 percent to 52.96 billion hryvnias (US$9.94 billion) and expenditures by 5.6 percent to $54.99 billion hryvnias, Interfax reported.

EU provides money for pipeline

(RFE/RL)—Ukraine, Poland, and the European Union signed a declaration on May 27 to work toward extending the Odesa-Brody oil pipeline to the Polish port of Gdansk in order to transport Caspian oil to Europe, Ukrainian and Polish news agencies reported.

The European Commission will contribute 3 million euros (US$3.6 million) for a feasibility study of the Odesa-Brody-Gdansk pipeline.

Polish Deputy Prime Minister Marek Pol told PAP that construction of the Polish section of the pipeline can only be financed on commercial terms.

"We have decided to set up a working team including representatives from Poland, Ukraine, and the EU who will coordinate work on the project," he said.

A Brody-Plock-Gdansk stretch that is expected to take three to five years to build and to cost some 500 million euros ($589 million) is needed to complete the pipeline.

Naftogas wants decision

(Eastern Economist)—NaftoGas Ukrainy applied to the Cabinet with a request to determine the goal for using the Odesa-Brody oil pipeline, May 26.

In particular, the company asks it to decide whether to pump crude oil in the direction of Brody-Odesa or to transit Caspian oil in the direction Odesa-Brody, said NaftoGas Chairman Yuriy Boiko.

He said: "We prepared the proposition for the Cabinet. They will make the decision." He did not disclose the details of the propositions, he did say that it contained the estimation of the suitability of the various options for crude oil transit.

He further said: "we presented all the economic calculations and all protocols of intentions."

Ruhrgas will negotiate

(Eastern Economist)—Ruhrgas disclosed it is open for negotiation on every model of organization of the consortium for managing Ukraine's gas transportation pipeline with NaftoGaz and GasProm, May 24.

"Ruhrgas is not concentrate on the concession model," the statement of the company said.

As earlier reported, NaftoGaz CEO Boyko called the concession model "unacceptable", while Russian Ambassador to Ukraine Viktor Chernomyrdin called it acceptable.

NaftoGaz earlier named three models for the consortium to be considered: gas supply management, operator, and concession.

Deputy Premier Vitaliy Haiduk also mentioned the possibility of privatization of the pipelines.

Briefly

GDP up 7.4% in April

(Eastern Economist)—In April Ukraine's GDP grew 7.4% compared with April 2002, Finance Minister Mykola Azarov said May 14. He revealed that the major contributors to this growth rate were construction and power generating. GDP growth for the Jan. to Apr. period was 7.1% over the same.

Cabinet approves sale of UkrNafta stake

(Eastern Economist)—The State Property Fund has received the Cabinet's consent for the sale of a 43% stake in UkrNafta. A tender on the selection of a broker will be announced in June. The package will be displayed for sale in September-October and it has been offered to Tatarstan's State Property Fund, the second biggest stockholder. PryvatBank and UkrSibBank, which have already bought 1.154% UkrNafta's shares, have declared their readiness to purchase the package.

JKX to buy rest of Poltava Petroleum

(Eastern Economist)—JKX Oil & Gas disclosed on May 20 that it had agreed with the government of Ukraine to exercise its priority right to purchase the 33.8% state owned stake in Poltava Petroleum. The agreement is a significant step forward for JKX, which currently holds 66.2 per cent of PPC. The deal follows a three-year court battle fought by the energy company to defend its original 49 per cent stake in PPC against an attempt by the State Property Fund to transfer it to a private Ukrainian company.

NBU reserves grow

(Eastern Economist)—International liquid reserves of the National Bank of Ukraine grew by Hr 134.3 million (2.7%) from May 8 to May 16 reaching US$5.1737 billion. At the same time taking the exchange rate of 31 December 2002 as a base the reserves grew 2.3% or by $111.8 million.

SPF holds off sale of Halychyna refinery

(Eastern Economist)—The State Property Fund resolved to adjourn the sale of 25% in Halychyna Oil Refinery until the refinery reconciles its conflict with the State Tax Administration which has estranged its assets. Particularly, the STA accuses the refinery of non-payment of Hr 138 million worth of excise tax. Now the parties are trying to settle the dispute through the courts.

SPF will sell 98% in Lviv research lab

(Eastern Economist)—The State Property Fund has announced a tender for a 98.54% stake in the Scientific Research Institute of Radio-Electronic Medical Apparatus of Lviv. The SP is Hr 1.298 million and the SF Hr 1.317 million. In the first quarter of 2003 the volume of sales was Hr 3,500, balance (loss) Hr 95,800, A/R Hr 56,700, A/P Hr 206,300, assets Hr 1.928 million. The company specializes in experimental-design and electrodes.

Popadiuk dazzles at Sherwood Park concert

(UkrNews)—Vasyl Popadiuk dazzled the audience with his brilliant virtuosity at the Festival Centre in Sherwood Park, May 12.

Popadiuk was the guest performer of the D'Arcy Greaves Ensemble, which performed a number of international pieces, ranging from Spanish flamenco to Indian ragas.

The ensemble consists of Greaves on Spanish guitar, Miguel Ferrer on cajon and percussion, Cassius Khan on tabla, Everoll Moses on African drum, Jan Randal on piano, Rosa Romero on vocals and flamenco dancer, Veronica Ruiz.

Popadiuk played a number of sizzling violin pieces including Hutsul, Gypsy, Hungarian and Bukovynian motifs.

Of particular note was his "Lark" number, in which he uses his instrument to emulate the sounds of various animals including bees, pigs, horses, cows, woodpeckers and other birds.

Vasyl Popadiuk Jr. was born in Ukraine to Vasyl Popadiuk Sr. a musician/composer and Svitlana Popadiuk, a choreographer. Vasyl Jr. studied piano from the age of 4 and the violin from the age of 6 and earned him a seat in a specialized school for musically gifted children in Kyiv. His talent was recognized early at his first stage debut at the age of 7, which left the audience mesmerized by his mature virtuosity.

Throughout his childhood and adolescence, Vasyl performed in Ukraine, West Germany and other Eastern European countries. He continued his studies at the National Conservatory of Music in Ukraine. While he was a student, he performed with the world renown Nazarov's Theatre in Moscow and toured Spain, Italy, France, Austria, Holland, Tunis and Jordan. Vasyl also toured Europe and North America with the Hopak Dance Ensemble and the National Gypsy Theatre "Romance" of Ukraine.

Since 1997, Vasyl Popadiuk has resided in Canada. His mastery and fiery talent has been shared with music lovers across North America. He performs regularly on public television, in concerts and at music festivals.

Vasyl Popadiuk's passion and union with the violin gives birth to his musical hallmark of blending folk with jazz improvisations. He is known as much for his unique style as for his artistry performing.

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Canadian interns return from Ukraine

(CBIE)—A group of young Canadians have returned to Canada after a half-year internship in Ukraine. The young graduates are participants in the International Youth Internship Program (IYIP) administered by the Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE). The program will run again this year and will offer 13 internship positions funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

"This is a win-win situation says Jennifer Humphries, Director, Scholarships, CBIE. We send recent university and college graduates on these internships abroad and they return to Canada with professional experience that helps them to find attractive jobs. We are proud to announce that a recent returnee is now employed at CBIE, and several have been offered positions in Ukraine or Canada." The hosts in Ukraine benefit from having eager young Canadian professionals working within their organizations. And the special partnership between Canada and Ukraine is strengthened.

The 2002-03 interns include recent graduates from universities across Canada including University of Saskatchewan, University of Alberta, University of Waterloo, Brock University, University of Manitoba, Carleton University, York University and Seneca College. They hold either Undergraduate or Master's degrees in specializations such as Political Science, Local Economic Development, Finance, Psychology, Central/East European Area Studies, to list a few.

The host organizations in Ukraine included the United Nations Development Program, the Ukrainian Academy of Public Administration, the Kyiv Post (a weekly English language newspaper), and Help Us Help the Children. The variety of the interns' work in technical cooperation, public relations, policy development, education and public administration gives an idea of the breadth of the interns' experience, but only hints at the significant responsibility level of their internships. As one of the interns wrote in a report to CBIE, "CIDA and CBIE provided me with a link between university and practical work experience that is related to my field of study, creating a stepping stone for obtaining my future career objectives. My international experience also allowed me to expand my knowledge of the world by giving me the opportunity to live in a historically rich and ethnically diverse region."

Another intern wrote: "I became extremely self-confident, gained many new skills, and gained valuable work experience. In addition I also improved my language skills, enjoyed the culture and even had the opportunity to travel to other countries…It was the most incredible time of my life."

Interested graduates from Canadian colleges and universities should apply as soon as possible for positions starting in September."

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